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## The Best Guernsey Cow.

This grand cow, Sultana, of Paxtang, is one of great capacity. It is no wonder that her owner, Mr. S. M. Shoemaker, Stevenson, Md., takes great pride in her. She was first admitted to The Advanced Register as No. 28, with a year's record of \$865.52 pounds milk and 365.04 pounds butter fat. In justice to this record it should be said that she was dry one month during this year's time. Mr. Shoemaker believed she was capable of doing better work and accordingly she was immediately started on another year, with the following result: Pounds of milk from Dec. 17, 1902, to Dec. 16, 1903, 14,138.29, or about seven thousand quarts; average per cent. of butter fat 4.25; pounds of butter fat 590.34, equal to almost seven hundred pounds of butter.

This is the best yearly milk record of any Guernsey cow to date and is the fourth best butter-fat record among advanced register cows. It should be mentioned that this record was commenced when Sultana was eleven years two months old. During these two years her milk has been tested by the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station and supervised by that station in accordance with the requirements of the register. It is interesting to note that the average per cent. butter fat for the two years comes the same—4.25.

Sultana's feed and care was similar to that given the rest of Mr. Shoemaker's herd. The grain in use was a mixture of twelve parts bran, eight parts gluten feed, two parts flaxseed meal and two parts cottonseed. Sultana was fed six, eight, ten, twelve or fourteen pounds daily of this mixture according to the amount of milk she was giving; the great part of the time she received twelve or fourteen pounds daily. In summer the rough feed was five to seven pounds clover hay, ten to fifteen pounds silage and about twenty-five pounds green feed (sowing crops). In winter, seven pounds hay, thirty to thirty-five pounds silage and five pounds beets were given. She was allowed to exercise in yards every day except during cold rains.

## The Hatch Experiment Station Herd.

The feeding department of foods and feeding of the Hatch station, Amherst, Mass., keeps about a dozen cows—mostly high-grade Jerseys—for the purpose of carrying on a variety of dairy and feeding experiments. These cows—purchased of nearby farmers at a cost when fresh of \$50 to \$75 each—are of the dairy type, and have yielded from 5500 to seven thousand pounds of five per cent. milk yearly. In this connection, it is desired to present the record of the grade Jersey cow Pearl, which has belonged to the herd for a number of years. In appearance she may be regarded as rather coarse and angular. She possesses, however, the typical dairy form, having a large deep body and a pronounced "hoard's hump." Her udder is large but rather defective in front. She dropped her last calf in December, 1902. Her breeding is unknown.

Milk and Butter Yield.			
Dates	lbs Milk	Per Cent. Fat	Equal to lbs Butter
Dec. 25-29	247.2	7.40	21.3
Jan. 30-Jan. 5	246.4	6.90	19.8
Jan. 12-17	244.4	7.15	20.4
Jan. 24-29	245.5	6.85	19.2
Jan. 29-Feb. 2	242.2	6.40	18.1
Feb. 2-7	254.0	5.45	16.8

The cow was not forced, receiving daily twelve pounds rowen, twelve pounds hay, three pounds bran, 2½ pounds distillers' grains and 2½ pounds fine middlings. Later the feed consisted of sixteen pounds hay, thirty pounds silage, five pounds bran and three pounds gluten meal a day. Shortly after calving, Pearl was in good flesh and weighed 1100 pounds. She constantly lost weight during the first few months, until about the middle of February the loss amounted to 170 pounds. It is evident that she could have profitably utilized a larger ration, and it also seems probable that she took the fat from her body and transferred it into milk fat. Note that her average milk test two weeks after calving was 7.40 per cent. fat, and that the milk gradually decreased in fat until the first week of February when it had reached 5.45 per cent. The milk did not go below five per cent. fat, neither did the cow lose any more in weight during the next few months. During the first six months of 1903 without extra feed, this cow produced 5241 pounds of milk, averaging 5.54 per cent. fat, equivalent to 541.30 pounds of eighty-five per cent. butter, being a daily average of twenty-nine pounds of milk and 1.9 pounds of butter. Unfortunately through a misunderstanding her milk record was not kept during July, August and September. She is

now producing about nineteen pounds daily or six per cent. milk, and is thought to be safe in calf to a grandson of Brown Berrie's Son. It is believed that such a record is rarely equaled by animals from the herds of the most reputable Jersey breeders. Amherst, Mass. J. B. LINDSAY.

## The Old Homesteads.

Ride over the hills of Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire and Rhode Island and we will see more deserted farms and neglected homes in these four States than can, I think, be found in any other six States of the Union. It is with a feeling of sadness and regret that we look upon these old neglected homes and abandoned farms that frequently meet our gaze as we go from town to town. How natural is to ask the reason for this, and wonder why the men who now occupy a high position among their fellowmen, in many instances commanding large salaries, allow the home of their boyhood, around which cluster the most sacred and tender memories of life, to remain in so dilapidated and desolate a condition. There are many reasonable arguments which might be presented to give answer to this query, but I leave the task to be performed by those better qualified.

These old homes, besides being the birthplace of many prominent and successful men who are now living, have, in many cases, been the scenes of stirring events in our country's history. They tell of Lexington and Concord. They speak of Bunker Hill and Saratoga. They felt the gloom and despair of Valley Forge. They shared in the welcome of the returning legions from the final triumph of Yorktown. Within these old walls was felt the echo of Sumpter's guns. They saw forth many of the men who stood in the fore-rank of battle that July day and turned back the deathless charge of Pickett. Men who witnessed the crowning glory of Appomattox. Sons of these New England homes have fought on every battlefield of the Republic, from Lexington to Santiago. Many of them sleep in unknown graves, but their memory lives on, and liberty keeps their record. Here, too, stood forth the blushing bride, giving into the keeping of some good and honest man her young life, her beauty and her happiness, her lips uttering fearlessly the vow then held sacred "for better or for worse" while life should last. Here rang the peal of merry laughter that bespoke the innocence of childhood. Here a fond mother's heart beat quicker as baby lips first utter that heaven-born name; lips that in manhood's years were destined to move men's souls as they were never moved before, and rouse a nation to action; names that will go down the corridors of time and live in history when the Republic shall be no more.

These old homes represent all this, and more, and grander far than all, they have given to our country its noblest heritage, that priceless gift, in the safe-guarding of which depends the stability of our Government, the preservation of our institutions, and the prosperity and welfare of our people—a high type of citizenship. Glittered indeed would be the tongue, mighty the pen, that could do justice to the memory of the pioneers of New England. To the lofty character of these early farmers, who, with one hand upon the plow, the other on the rifle, cleared these farms, many of which are now neglected or abandoned, our country owes much of its greatness. Their influence has been felt throughout the length and breadth of the land, from generation to generation. Wherever their children have gone, progress has followed their footsteps. The great West owes its social material and industrial development to the thrift and energy of New England men. With their characteristic courage and hardness they pushed across the trackless wilderness, facing a savage and relentless foe, and founded the commonwealth of that great country, whose grandest possibilities are yet in the future.

The homes of New England have ever been the source from which our country has called forth men in her hour of need. They have always been ready to respond in peace or in war, and truly may it be said of them, "They deserve well of the Republic."

P. P. WALDRON.

## Farmers and The Health Board.

The milk farmers scored a point or two against the Massachusetts State Board of Health at the legislative hearing Tuesday. The present law requires that when samples of milk have been taken for analysis the results shall be reported to the farmers. The State board has long been in the habit of ignoring this requirement unless the samples happened to fall below the legal standard.

This year the farmers, through the cattle owners association, are trying to put through a new law which will impose a legal penalty in the shape of a fine for neglect to report results of all samples tested. The chairman of the board rather lamely objected at the hearing that most of the samples were analyzed in a crude manner not wholly accurate, but a young farmer present declared that a test which would satisfy the farmer and enable him to find out near enough where his product stood in relation to the law. The board made rather a sorry spectacle trying to excuse its own deliberate and persistent neglect in the face of repeated protest from the farmers.

The root of the trouble is that a body like the board of health, made up of doctors and medical professors, cannot easily keep in touch with the farmers and their needs. A competent representative from the agricultural college or from a like source would improve the board's relations with farming interests. The board of health is from its makeup and powers a very arbitrary body, with almost despotic control of property

and persons under certain conditions. It neglects to observe the law in regard to milk samples, and especially its failure to realize the point of view of the milk farmer as a new illustration of the need of care and limitation before turning loose upon the community bodies of professionals, learned of course, but often arrogant, self-willed and out of sympathy with a part of the public with which they come in contact.

## New Tops for Old Trees.

A correspondent recently sent to the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station the following questions which were answered by Prof. W. M. Munson as follows: "Can sweet apple trees be successfully grafted? Will it pay to re-top a large sweet apple tree, a foot or more in diameter? Should an orchard of one hundred trees be all of one variety?" It is very doubtful if the flavor of the fruit has any relation to the value of a given tree for purposes of grafting. Tolman Sweet is often used as a basis for top-working.



Apple trees up to a foot in diameter may be top-worked if unsatisfactory. Care, however, should be used that too much of the top is not removed in any one year. Cut off about one-third of the top the first year and insert clones or stubs not more than two or three inches in diameter. The next year remove more of the top and insert other clones, and the following year complete the work.

It is not advisable to plant a solid block of one hundred trees of one variety unless there are other trees in the immediate vicinity. Some varieties are self-fertile and will give satisfactory results if planted alone; but it is always safer to provide for cross fertilization. In large orchards every third or fourth row should be of a different variety. Two or three varieties are enough for a commercial orchard, however, and it is seldom advisable to plant more.

CHARLES D. WOODS, Director.

## Heating a Farmhouse.

The phenomenal cold of the present winter and the difficulty experienced by many in the matter of warming their dwellings in the most comfortable and economical manner, is a problem evidently still unsolved even among the farming public where the question of fuel in the past has been a matter of slight concern. But at the present time our forests are disappearing; the natural source from which the farmers' fuel has been obtained. From the fact that many farmers are now dependent on coal for domestic and heating purposes, this question is becoming more and more a matter of vital importance. The system of steam and hot air has long been tested, each having its advocates. But the use of hot water for heating purposes is comparatively new and untried as applied to farmers' use.

Having occasion to install a system for heating purposes in my farm dwelling to replace the several stoves used for that purpose, it was decided to use hot water, after a thorough investigation regarding its merits as compared with either hot air or steam. This system, as now installed, consists of the boiler or furnace placed at a convenient point in the cellar or basement, from whence pipes extend for conveying hot water to radiators (eight of them) located in rooms on the first and second floors, also a system of pipes to conduct the partially cooled water back to the boiler. A feed pipe leading from the boiler to a small reservoir of twelve or fifteen gallons capacity, located at a given point somewhat higher than any of the radiators, serves to afford a constant supply of water to the boiler; this approximately comprises the entire system. After a year's test, including the present winter of excessive cold, and after the full enjoyment of the pleasurable temperature pervading all portions of the rooms above and below as circumstances required even in zero weather, we have the pleasing assurance that no apparent mistake has been made. And by no one is it so fully appreciated as by the too often overworked housewife; no dust, no ashes, no smoke, no moving put and replacing stoves and mismatched stovepipes both spring and fall, and all other attendant annoyances connected with the stove system. It is not assumed in this article that the above system is decidedly superior to the others referred to above, but its evident durability and other important

features are certainly in its favor; but more time is required perhaps to judge of its merits from an economical standpoint, having had no experience with other systems regarding expenditure for fuel.

## The Witch-Hazel Crop.

Strangers who see large loads, apparently of vinegar barrels, passing through town and returning in the other direction evidently full, often inquire what material is being transported in this way. It is the witch-hazel product of the mill in the west part of the town, which annually turns out hundreds of barrels of witch-hazel extract and provides a good market for the hazel brush which grows in the woodlots and along the roadsides on most of the farms in this section. There are numerous hazel factories in this county and all along the Connecticut river; in Chester, Higganum, Haddam, Essex and elsewhere.

The farmers find the sale of the brush quite an addition to their winter income, as the work can be done at odd times. The price at the mill is about \$3.50 per ton, and about

honey, but when their little home is molested they will act in self-defense. It is therefore necessary to use a smoker of some kind. Before opening a hive send in a few puffs of smoke at the entrance to alarm them and they will immediately rush for the combs and fill themselves with honey. After smoking them a little it is well to wait a minute or two that they may gorge themselves. The cover can then be lifted off and a little more smoke blown in at the top of the frames and the bees will adhere nicely to the combs.

An idea that many people seem to have in regard to bee-keeping is that it is necessary to plant a certain kind of crop to feed the bees. I was much amused one day when a lady inquired of me very seriously whether I went out into the fields and gathered flowers and brought them home to the bees, and strewed them in front of the hives for the bees to feed upon. Such erroneous notions are quite prevalent. Nothing could be more mistaken. The bee is a miller, to whose mill everything that comes is grist. She gets her honey from trees and plants as well as flowers. She roams as sweet odors lead her, through two or three miles of the surrounding country, and she cares not if she transgresses property rights or flies her stores from your neighbors' flowers and trees. To the latter she is most always welcome, for their hope of posterity depends somewhat on her, and your neighbor, if he is at all intelligent and knows anything of the mutual understanding between bees and flowers, will also gladly welcome your busy, yellow, shining, humming horde of marauders.

One difficulty remains; at least that which seems a difficulty to the beginner, and that is the marketing. This is easy, too, when you know how. The A B C of marketing is to work up a local trade. In the first place your bees themselves will advertise you and people will come to you for honey. But a surer and more businesslike way is to take or send samples of your different grades of comb and extracted honey and get orders from the grocers of your own and neighboring towns. I have tried this method in the New Jersey towns and villages around me with much success that I sell more honey than I can produce. Still, all persons may not be able to adapt themselves to do their own selling, or may not feel inclined to take up this branch of the business. From such the commission merchant is ever ready to receive consignments of honey and can dispose of any amount without any trouble to the producer. In addition to selling honey, queen-rearing is another pleasant and profitable branch of the business. Ordinary untested queens at certain seasons of the year will fetch a dollar apiece, while a blooded beauty who has been properly mated will bring sometimes as much as \$5.

## A Maine Fox Farm.

One of the most enterprising attempts ever made by ingenious Yankee farmers was the establishment of a farm for raising foxes. This farm is located in Maine, about forty miles from Bangor, and is owned by E. Norton. The tract includes about three hundred acres, a portion of which is enclosed by a wire fence ten feet high.

It was found that the foxes can climb to that height, so the top of the fence was turned in so that it projected inward about two feet, and the plan proved an effective barrier. The foxes next tried to burrow out, but Mr. Norton dug a trench and filled it with stones, so that there is a stone wall underneath the fence for its entire length. The field is divided into several small lots, with a well-built house or kennel in each lot. The foxes remain in burrows throughout the summer, but at the first arrival of cold weather, they take to the kennels. The fox farm has been in operation for five years, and is said to be profitable.

The foxes are of the somewhat rare and valuable blue variety, the stock having been brought from Alaska. The six foxes of the original stock cost over a hundred dollars delivered at the farm. There are now more than fifty on a farm. The fur from variety of fox is much more valuable than from the common varieties. The care of the fox presents no special difficulty. They are fed about the same as dogs, and are even less particular than dogs, in regard to the condition and variety of their diet. After remaining on the farm for a time, they become partly tame, and are readily caught when needed.

## Improving the Woodlot.

Every farm, however small, should have a woodlot, from which firewood, posts, poles and other small timber used on a farm, may be taken as needed. This woodlot may be located on a hilltop or hillside too steep for cultivation, or upon any other place which may not be suitable for the ordinary purposes of agriculture. Again, the woodlot may be so located as to form a wind-break, which will serve to protect the buildings from cold winds, and the crops and soil from both cold and dry winds.

A woodlot after it has been established must be kept in good condition. Not infrequently a farmer will so neglect his woodlot or else so misuse it as to cause it to deteriorate very rapidly. Such deterioration is quite often due to excessive thinning, to pasturing, or to constant and continued removal of the better timber and to the leaving of the poorest trees. Correct use would exclude cattle and sheep entirely.

The undergrowth should be left to form a soil cover, which adds to the moisture-retaining capacity, or young trees should be planted which will grow in the shade and eventually replace the old growth. Maple, beech, boxelder, ash and many other species are useful for this purpose. In removing trees only the poorest timber which can be used for the desired purpose, should be taken. The woodlot should be fenced up to its

border. If a margin of grass land is allowed between the border of the wood and the pasture, the temptation to use the whole for pasturing may prove too great.

If undesirable kinds of trees are present, more desired kinds should be planted, and as soon as these have been established, the other may be removed. It should always be remembered that for firewood, poor and soft-wooded species often yield in the aggregate a greater profit than the slower growing hardwood kinds. Thus poplars and willows will pay much better in a given time than the more valuable hickories and hard maples.

Some species of trees will produce marketable material, such as poles and posts, in fifteen to twenty-five years, while timber of larger dimensions will take from forty to one hundred years to grow.—Prof. C. A. Davis.

## Finishing Winter Lambs.

The lambs should be taught to eat dry feed as early in life as possible, and they will do so more readily before than after they have been turned to pasture. This should be provided in an apartment to which the ewes cannot have access. And when it can be done, a place for feeding hay should be in the same place, and choice bunches placed there for them.

Second crop clover, if cut when in bloom and nicely cured, is excellent for this purpose. But they should never be expected to eat it up clean, but the racks should be cleaned at each feeding and given to the ewes or to cattle, and fresh things placed for the lambs. This will in a great measure obviate their crawling in the racks and tramping over the hay placed for the ewes. They prefer to eat and even lie by themselves when there is a convenient place to do so.

Their feed at first should be bran and middlings, with a small amount of oil meal added. As the lambs grow older, whole oats should be added, and the amount gradually increased, and by the time they are two months old, they should be receiving all they will eat clean twice per day; and if at any time some is left, it should be removed before another feed is given. When turned to pasture the grain ration should be continued, adding some cracked corn and whole wheat.

In this way they can be made ready for the butcher at three months old, weighing on an average from fifty to sixty pounds live weight; and we believe there is no other animal that can be placed on the market at so near a clear profit. I should say that these figures are not extravagant. We have been having them sell even above this at a younger age. The facts are, from experience of our own, we have been disposing of our lambs when less than three months and ten days. We have found in our experience that the quicker we can get them ready for market the better.

If, however, we wish to raise regular hot-house lambs and dispose of them in February and March, the method of management and feeding would be practically the same, but we must then look out for a special market for them. And the demand is for a lighter weight, say forty pounds average. But during that season of the year good fleshy lambs can be sold in our large cities at extravagant prices. J. S. BURNS Clinton, Pa.

## Simplify the Milk Trade.

The plan of the milk producers for selling milk in Boston is in its general features a definite and clean-cut proposition. To ship milk to Boston and sell it there instead of selling it at the local stations is the gist of the idea, thus avoiding most of the excessive drawbacks for freight and handling, zone changes and surplus.

The details of the proposed operations are simple compared with the main question, which is, Will the great majority of the milk farmers hold together and supply the needed capital? The next few months, or perhaps weeks, will settle the question for the present. In case of failure, the producers are likely to meet a still tougher problem when the time comes to settle the summer price of milk. On the other hand, even a partial success of the plan of co-operation will greatly improve the general milk situation. If the preliminary work should be well under way before April 1, the effect on the contractors would be most useful. In case it were thought best to make a contract for the summer, and, in any event, whatever is done should be hastened forward while the present dissatisfaction with the existing system and "contract" is at its height.

## Among the Farmers.

Every person has a place somewhere and he should be educated for that place. A practical education is what the farmer needs.—E. P. Williams, Franklin County, Mass.

We use straw for bedding, and it is shaken up twice each day and new added when necessary. Our herd is black and white and they are as clean as in summer time.—W. H. Snow, Piscataquis County, Me. The advisability of a college education depends upon the individual. Education broadens the mind, but any person should be educated for his special calling. A high-school education is advisable for any boy, but four years experience on the farm is more advisable for a young farmer in a material way than four years at college. Time will come when more farmers' boys will attend agricultural colleges. Better education makes better citizens. Although the cities have attracted many of the brightest thinkers from the country, eventually the tide of life will be reversed, and as in days long gone by, the best modes of life and the most highly educated people will be found on the farm.—C. E. Ward, Franklin County, Mass.



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### Dairy.

#### Butter Slightly Higher.

The advance of almost one cent a pound on a number of leading grades this week represents actual sales, but the situation is less favorable than might be inferred. Trade is rather dull and the dealers often concede something from prices to induce sales. Hence the quotations are rather uncertain, and some of the dealers report prices almost unchanged since last week. There is but little choice fresh creamery to be had, but the lower grades are, as usual, plenty and slow of sale in competition with stored butter. The stock of storage butter is still far in excess of the usual amount at this season, and dealers are wondering whether it will all be cleared out at anything like present range of prices. Much of it was put away during the high prices of early summer, and those who hold it cannot cut present prices much without losing money. Fresh box and print butter of choice grade brings a good price, but only a little of the stock on hand is above first and second grade.

At New York the main features of the market are much the same as noted of late. There is a good consumptive demand in progress, and the desirable table grades are being absorbed promptly at full late prices. Bids of 24 cents for 94 score creamery were made under the call on 'Change Wednesday morning, and receivers who had that class of stock were able to get the price from store; much of the business, however, was settled on the basis of 26 cents for qualities that were acceptable to best trade. There is a pretty good place for stock that is well worth 24 to 25 cents, but the lower grades are working out slowly as they come in competition with the storage goods. The more defective lots are very hard to move at any reasonable price. Storage creamery is firmer for fancy quality, with an occasional lot exceeding top quotation. Considerable business has been done of late in choice grades at 20 to 24 cents. Poorer sorts are not often inquired for. Buyers seem to be getting a little more particular in their selection of held butter. Imitation creamery is firm. Factory, both fresh and held, all sorts of packing stock and rolls are doing better. Renovated has worked up to 17 1/2 to 18 cents for extras, and there is a pretty good trade; 9200 packages of butter arrived Wednesday.

Cheese holds steady with demand moderate. Holders continue to report a very satisfactory outlet to local and out-of-town dealers, though the demand generally is closely confined to supplying current needs. Here and there, however, some good-sized lots have been taken as against future requirements. Holders are still anxious to reduce their stocks, and therefore meeting demand promptly as it comes along, with few hesitating to concede a fraction whenever that would prove attractive enough to move good-sized parcels. Exporters are showing increased interest, and one New York shipper has purchased eight hundred boxes of large late-made cheese—five hundred boxes white and three hundred boxes colored—on private terms; and we hear of sales of several hundred boxes more, mostly in small lots of underpriced full cream and skims.

Cable advices to George A. Cochrane from the principal markets of Great Britain give butter markets as a little more active on top grades of table butter, but arrivals continue too large to enable receivers obtaining any advance. All descriptions of under grades in abundant supply, with a wide range of values. Finest Danish, 23 1/2 to 24 cents; finest Australian and New Zealand, 20 1/2 to 21 cents; finest Canadian, 19 1/2 to 20 cents; American grades are offered at 16 cents. Business cannot be done at over 15 cents.

#### Number of Live Stock.

The acting statistician of the Department of Agriculture has completed his estimate of the number and value of farm animals in the United States on Jan. 1, 1904, by separate States. The totals for the country are shown in the following table: Horses, 16,736,000; average price per head, \$67.93; value, \$1,136,940,288. Mules, 2,757,916; average price per head, \$78.88; value, \$217,532,832. Milch cows, 17,419,817; average price per head, \$29.21; value, \$508,941,489. Other cattle, 43,029,498; average price per head, \$16.32; value, \$711,178,134. Sheep, 51,630,144; average price per head, \$2.69; value, \$138,830,099. Swine, 47,000,367; average price per head, \$6.15; value, \$288,224,627.

Figures for certain States were as follows: Maine—Horses, 123,773; milch cows, 185,417; sheep, 313,982; swine, 65,335. New Hampshire—Horses, 64,268; milch cows, 124,904; sheep, 82,605; swine, 49,723. Vermont—Horses, 88,247; milch cows, 283,197; sheep, 246,488; swine, 89,510. Massachusetts—Horses, 14,855; milch cows, 188,740; sheep, 44,855; swine, 70,510. Rhode Island—Horses, 15,933; milch cows, 25,723; sheep, 8834; swine, 12,203. Connecticut—Horses, 47,428; milch cows, 129,607; sheep, 34,254; swine, 46,501. New York—Horses, 631,287; milch cows, 1,635,328; sheep, 1,315,974;

swine, 682,437. New Jersey—Horses, 95,230; milch cows, 179,241; sheep, 44,685; swine, 154,069. Pennsylvania—Horses, 305,504; milch cows, 1,055,071; sheep, 963,421; swine, 1,000,082.

### Horticultural.

#### Vegetables in Fair Supply.

Trade, as a whole, is rather light, bad weather and high prices tending to limit the demand. Otherwise the moderate receipts in many lines would hardly be sufficient. Onions have been tending higher, choice stock being in limited supply, although poor or frozen lots are plenty. These bring about two-thirds the price of good stock. Cabbages continue scarce and high. Squashes show a tendency to maintain the top prices last quoted, and not many choice lots can be had for less than \$20 per ton. Turnips are a little higher; beets steady, likewise carrots and parsnips. The potato market is firm at last week's figures, but supplies are light on account of the weather. Southern vegetables are mostly scarce and high. Hothouse vegetables steady, but rhubarb is lower.

Offerings of potatoes at New York are moderate, but demand light and tone easy. European stock has sold at \$2.65 to \$2.75, and keeps cleaned up closely; several important lots reported in transit. Maine potatoes selling mainly at \$2.60 to \$2.65, though for fancy Green Mountain \$2.75 is realized. State and Western sell mainly from \$2.70 down for bags, though best stock in bulk is held at \$3. Sweet potatoes are in light supply and rather firm for choice. Onions hold firm for fancy, but poor stock is dull and irregular. Cabbages higher. Russia turnips show further advance. Squash, carrots and other winter vegetables in moderate supply and steady. Florida vegetables are in light receipt and weather is too cold to allow much movement; market is quiet and without change. New Orleans vegetables are selling well when showing attractive quality. Bermuda and Havana vegetables show irregular quality and value. Dry Lima beans appear plenty and cheap. The stock of these in sight, however, is not large and it is reasonable to suppose that prices will go higher.

#### Wool and Mohair.

The wool markets are quiet, with some lines selling at slightly lower prices. The mills are reported fairly busy and the outlook reasonably good.

Mohair, both domestic and foreign, is receiving only a moderate demand. As a rule, the regular users of mohair are well supplied with stock for their immediate and near future needs, and are not interested in what the dealers have to show them. The feeling mills are about to begin on their new fall season, and they have shown some interest in the market by taking up sample lots, but as it has not been fully settled as to what extent mohair will be getting a figure in the millinery and trimming trades, the feeling mills have not been inclined to come into the market in large numbers. Dress-goods mills are very moderate buyers at the present time, although dealers report that there is a tendency on the part of these mills to show more of an interest from week to week. Prices in general are very firm, and our quotations are likely to hold good for some weeks to come.

#### Crop News.

One million four hundred and fifty-six thousand three hundred and forty-two dozen eggs of the value of \$36,211 were exported from the United States in the year 1903, and 301,868 dozen of the value of \$21,880 were imported into the country.

Cider in quantity of 674,108 gallons and of the value of \$93,819 was exported from this country during the last calendar year.

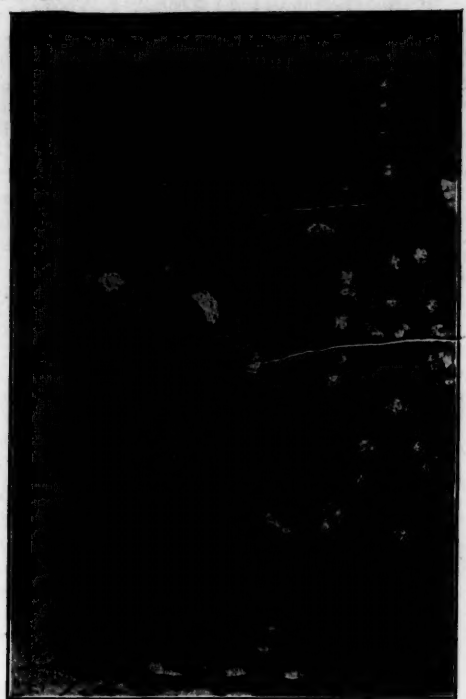
### Literature.

In his carefully written and architecturally correct book on "The Cathedrals of Northern France," Francis Milton introduces us to the best examples of French Gothic architecture, or of French medieval architecture, as some prefer to call it. The strongest influences at work in the north of France from the twelfth century onward have been in favor of the Gothic or pointed styles, while in the south, olive and ecclesiastical architecture alike were of a manifest Byzantine or Romanesque tendency. Yet it is quite noteworthy that the Gothic cathedrals of France, while closely related to each other in their design and arrangements, have little to do with those which lie without the confines of the country, either in general features or details. The type is distinctively one which stands by its own perfection. In size, while in many instances not having the length of nave of several in England, the author of this book tells us that they have nearly always an equal, if not a greater width, and almost an invariably greater height, though not equal in superficial area to St. Peter's, in Italy, the cathedral at Cologne, or even the one at Seville, in Spain. "Les Grandes Cathedrales" of the north of France, which are among the most prominent described in these pages, are those of

Paris, Amiens, Reims, Rouen, Beauvais and Chartres. The author first introduces us to what may be termed transition examples, Notre Dame de La n, Notre Dame de Noyen and Notre Dame de Soissons. These three, all within thirty miles of one another, may be said to best represent the nurturing and development of the early Gothic of France. Then we have presented to us "the grand group,"—the octette of churches of the Isle de France and those lying contiguous to it, Paris, Beauvais, St. Denis, Amiens, Reims, Rouen, Chartres and La Mans, which taken together, represent the greatest art expression of the Gothic builders, as well as those around which centered the most significant events of church and State. The author not only gives facts relating to the history of each and the architectural features, but includes interesting facts which the guide-book compilers and Cook tourist guides overlook. The impressive Cathedral of Notre Dame d'Amiens is in most English minds the beau ideal of a French cathedral. St. Pierre de

winter mornings. "No one can be said to love his garden who does not love it in winter. A fine-weather love is like a fine-weather friend, the prostitution of a sacred name: the friend is no friend and the love is no love at all."

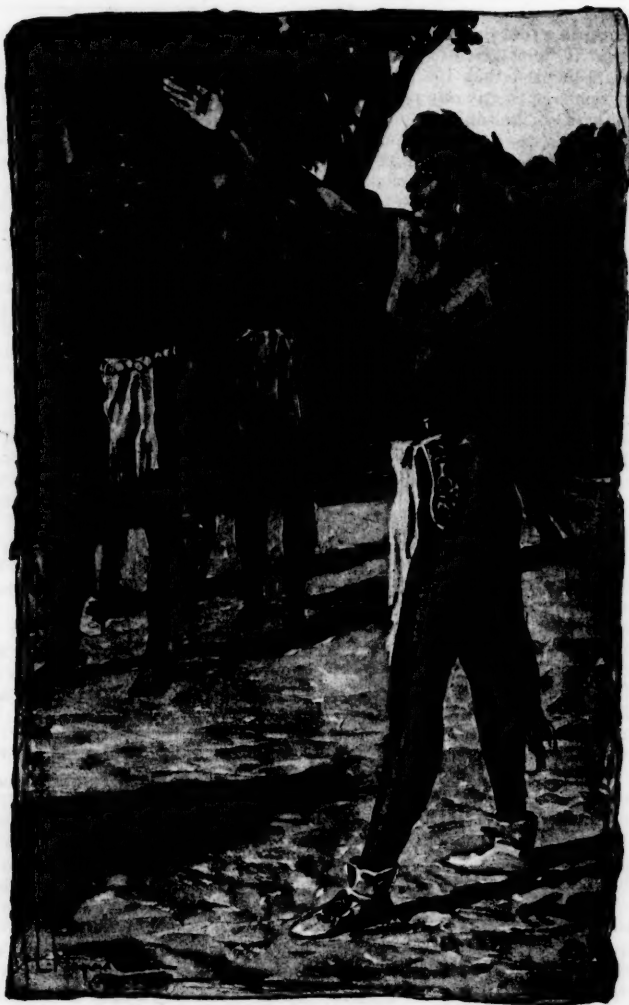
He then enumerates the varieties of flowers and plants which thrive in his garden. He tells us the means he takes to protect his plants in the winter, admitting that one learns by his mistakes, and observing that it usually takes a lifetime to know that we have sipped but a teaspoonful from the inexhaustible ocean of knowledge. The author does not stick to his theme, but wanders off on other topics suggested to him in a most independent manner. He considers the subject of "women and gardens," taking for his theme Charles Dudley Warner's assertion that "women always made a mess in a garden." His next topic is "religion" which, it is needless to say, is only remotely related to gardens. Eventually he returns to something more analogous to the subject,—garden tempta-



"EVELYN, I WONDER IF YOU WILL EVER LOVE."  
From "Romances of Colonial Days," by Geraldine Brooks. Published by T. Y. Crowell & Co.

Beauvais being "off the line" is passed by by hurried travelers, yet it is a marvel, if nothing more than the fact that it is without nave, tower and nearly everything that the average man associates with a grand cathedral except an immense choir. Notre Dame de Paris is the cathedral most firmly impressed on the minds of English-speaking people, although the old Cathedral of Reims ranks third among the four largest in France, being exceeded only by Amiens, Chartres, while Paris is slightly smaller. The cathedrals of the valley of the Loire are next considered in their natural order: Orleans, Blois, Tours, Angers and Nantes. The remainder of the book considers the cathedrals of central France, those east of Paris and those of western Normandy and Brittany, together with an abundance of appendices which give encyclopedic information in regard to the subject treated in a most comprehensive manner.

"—which appear in the form of the nurseryman's illustrated catalogues, making one long to acquire specimens of each of the lovely plants depicted and described in each successive catalogue which arrives. "But what are temptations for if not to fall into," he remarks, and then proceeds to reveal in his new purchases. A chapter on "garden pets" introduces us to a pair of cranes and a parrot. A chapter is set apart for the discussion of tropical trees, another discusses the child and the garden, and eventually the author returns to a theme more apropos, entitled "the training of the garden." This is a book which a random reader or a leisurely peruser of nature, literature and philosophy will admire. It is so good-natured, so sincere, that we can forgive the writer for being led away from his main topic in every chapter. (New York: D. Appleton & Co. Price, \$1.00 net.)



"THE EARTH HEARS US, THE SUN SEES US."  
Drawn by L. Maynard Dixon for "The Bridge of the Gods," by F. H. Balch. Published by A. C. McClurg & Co.

The illustrative features of this book are superb. There are numerous plates showing the more conspicuous cathedrals of the country and a large number of cuts in the text which greatly aid the reader in understanding the wealth of ecclesiastical architecture in this ever-interesting region. (Boston: L. C. Page & Co.)

Despite the fact that the author in his preface professes to have no literary ability or practice and knows very little about gardening—how modest and apologetic some authors are! "Garden Mosaics," by Alfred Simson, with its sensible reflections and gentle philosophy is an appealing volume. Between the covers of the book are the rambling thoughts of a disciple of nature, a man who loves flowers and trees, and not only loves but understands them and imparts his knowledge in an interesting manner. Without any attempt at literary style he expresses his intimate thoughts and feelings in an unconventional manner, with desultory opinions here and there. He begins by introducing us to his "very ordinary, somewhat ill-kept garden," which he says he visits while the stars are shining early in the morning, even

Samuel B. Green, professor of horticulture and forestry, University of Minnesota, has laid down certain principles of American forestry in a compactly written book. It is essentially a book on elementary forestry, prepared especially for students and others beginning this important subject. In textbook style Professor Green discusses first, the tree, then tree growth, the forest, forest influences, tree planting on prairies, forest regeneration, propagation, nursery practice, forest protection, rate of increase in timber lands, forest mensuration, forest problems, the uses of wood, durability of wood and forest economy. Discussing the subject of alarm about destruction of forests, Professor Green says: "For many years the attention of the people of this country has been drawn to the possibility of a depletion of our forests and a timber famine in the near future. But the increased transportation facilities have made new sources of timber easily accessible to us, which fact, together with the use of inferior kinds of trees for lumber, has kept the predicted timber famine from materializing, until now our people have become skeptical on this point, and



ACME PULVERIZING HARROW, CLOD CRUSHER AND LEVELLER.

J. J. Thomas, writing on the importance of thorough preparation of the soil, says of the Acme Pulverizing Harrow, Clod Crusher and Leveller:

This implement possesses the following special merits:

Ease of Draught.—The coulters or teeth, by running obliquely, or with a long slant through the soil, have the same advantage that belongs to a sharp boat in running through the water, instead of a square-headed or blunt one.

Efficiency of Work.—While many other harrow teeth come square against the soil, making hard work for the horses, those of the "Acme" turn the crumbling soil to the right and left, and have also an oblique or draw-cut downwards, slicing and crushing the hard lumps over which it passes.

Its draught is light when the thoroughness of its work is taken into consideration.

Its Many Uses.—It is a capital implement for pulverizing inverted sod in preparing for planting corn, as it goes down several inches in mellowing the freshly turned earth, while its slanting cut prevents tearing up the sod. For this purpose alone it is worth more than its cost on any farm of even moderate size.

It is especially adapted to cultivating apple, peach and pear orchards, as it may be graduated to move as near the surface as may be desired, avoiding any injury to the roots and never tearing out any over which it passes.

In rapidly preparing corn or other stubble for sowing fall grain. Plowing may not be necessary in some soils, if at the second and third passing

the teeth are thrown down deep for a perfect pulverization.

Mellowing ground in early spring, which has been plowed the previous autumn, for the timely sowing of barley, spring wheat or oats.

By never becoming seriously clogged with weeds or rubbish, all of which readily pass off by the backward slant of the teeth. And, for the same reason, small obstructions do not catch the teeth as with common harrows.

These various qualities fit it for an easy, rapid and efficient preparation of land, and in cheaply working the broad fields of a large farm into a fine condition as a garden.

Much controversy has arisen in recent years, and still continues among farmers and writers, as to the value of summer fallows. Such fallows are, of course, not needed where the land is already free from weeds and is in perfect condition. Even when necessary for cleansing the ground, they frequently fail of their purpose by being inefficiently managed. They require one or two plowings only during the summer. The surface hardens into a crust and becomes a mass of clods when plowed; and weeds are allowed to grow and seed the land. The time required for repeated plowings prevents the necessary work. But with the "Acme" Harrow work even better than plowing may be performed in one-fifth of the time—weeds sliced up and killed, and the operation repeated so often that the field will be a clean, mellow bed by autumn.

The Acme Pulverizing Harrow is manufactured by Duane H. Wash, Millington, N. J., who would be very glad to furnish an Acme Harrow, and who also furnishes a warranty for each and every part against breakage for the term of one season after it leaves the manufactory or any of his storehouses. He would be pleased to send you full information in relation to the same.

look upon these predictions as very premature. To any one who has carefully studied the subject, however, it will be very evident that our supply of white pine, that most generally useful of all our timber trees, is fast decreasing, and that it cannot be many years before this will be apparent by the advance of prices for this kind of timber.

Most of the land of good quality seems destined to be eventually used for farming purposes, but there will always remain a large area of stony or very sandy or mountainous land that will be unfit for profitable agriculture, and which will produce more revenue when used for the production of timber than when used for any other crop.

In Minnesota one-half of the State is prairie, and sadly in want of fuel and other forest supplies, while the other half has such a superabundance of these products that they are going to waste, and only a small proportion is considered worth marketing.

Professor Green points out that while Minnesota today employs 31,874 men in wood-working industries, the fact that there is no normal, annual increase of forest area a continuance of the lumber industry is not to be hoped for by those engaged in it. And the timber lands of all civilized countries have passed through about the same wasteful conditions as those which prevail in Minnesota. The book shows conclusively the need of proper adequate forest management in this country. (New York: John Wiley & Sons.)

Back to the time when the so-called weak Charles Stuart was struggling against his own infirmities of the spirit, and when the people headed by Cromwell rose in their might, Robert Barr goes for the scene of his latest romance, "Over the Border."

Essentially the novel is a love story, full of excitement and war, and of diplomacy and intrigue. At the beginning the author introduces us to Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford, whose daughter, Frances, is the fascinating heroine. The strong personality of the hero, William Armstrong, permeates the story, while De Courcy, the king's crafty adviser, is the villain. The weak and vacillating Charles is the central figure, and his instability is the cause of the heroine's anguish, inasmuch as the king signed the death warrant of Lord Strafford, her father. The Iron Cromwell stalks through the pages of the book a character somewhat different than some readers may have imagined him to be, but as strong and stern as history invariably makes him out. There are many pages of excitement, and the reader's interest is closely held by a succession of incidents, as well as by the unfolding of the romance in which Frances and her soldier lover, Armstrong, are the actors.

We have a very creditable picture of the period of English and Scottish history known as the Cromwell Protectorate, and if this historical romance bears a resemblance to the many which have had their day and passed into oblivion we must be lenient with this entertaining author for not displaying more originality. Yet a story which has Cromwell giving away the heroine when she is being hastily married to the hero may be said to possess a dash of originality. The book has a handsome frontispiece in color. (New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company. Price, \$1.50.)

### Curious Facts.

A temperature of -60° to -80° F. is not dangerous to human beings who are adequately clothed. If the air is still, while thirty or forty degrees higher, if accompanied by a gale of wind, would kill every living thing before it. Very low temperatures almost invariably coincide with perfect atmospheric quiet.

A few days ago the largest glass bottles ever blown were made at the works of the Illinois Glass Company for exhibition at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. The capacity of each bottle is forty-five gallons. Four perfect bottles were made. Each stands nearly six feet high and measures about sixteen inches across the bottom. The men who blew the bottles each supplied about eleven thousand cubic feet of air.

At the government pawnshop in Paris about 350,000 watches and sixty thousand wedding rings are deposited every year.

American sewing machines find large sale in British India, all other parts of Asia and in the islands of the Pacific.

Aluminum becomes granular and brittle when heated to about 600° C.; at a slightly increased temperature it becomes so soft that it can easily be cut with a knife. Hence all that is

needed in order to pulverize it is to heat it to the above-mentioned temperature and then pound it in a mortar. With zinc, a similar treatment will give the same result.

Japan has the largest interest in Manchuria. In 1902 that country had 177 ships, with a tonnage of 463,000, under Japanese flags.

During a prolonged attack of rheumatism, Thomas McDonald of Plymouth, Pa., was the victim of a peculiar injury. The paroxysms became so violent that two of his ribs snapped and were seriously fractured.

The French president receives \$120,000 a year, and gets in addition fruit, vegetables, game, fuel, oil, gas, electric light and washing free.

Europe has a population of 334,000,000, with two-thirds of a million more on the way. Rates are estimated to destroy food to the value of \$60,000,000 yearly.

The pearl fisheries of West Australia employ 2500 men, of whom 1100 are Englishmen. The average yield per boat per season is \$400.

Death sentences are pronounced in the punishment for murder in some parts of China. The victim is kept awake by beating the soles of his feet, and this treatment continues until he dies. At the end of nine or ten days the victim breathes his last.

There are nearly eighty thousand Welsh residents in Liverpool, where it is proposed to found a Celtic chair at the University College.

Forty-five only of the crew of the liner Kaiser Wilhelm II. are ordinary sailors, the remaining 555 being mechanics, etc.

The biggest panorama ever painted was of London by Mr. Homer. It covered forty-six thousand square feet, and was exhibited at the Coliseum.

**HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA.**  
President, Henry Stevens; Secretary, F. L. Houghton; Treasurer, W. S. Winstor. Branches in all States.

**FEES FOR REGISTRY.**  
To Members.—Males, \$1; females, \$1. Double fee for animals over one year of age. Transfers recorded within 6 months of date of sale, 25 cents each. New-Member's Animals.—Transfers, 50 cents; over one year of age, double fee. Transfers, if recorded within 6 months of date of sale, 50 cents; over 6 months, \$1. All blanks furnished free.

**Life Membership, \$25.**  
Advanced Register in charge of Sept. 1903, and above, who will furnish all information and transfer therefor.

Address F. L. HOUGHTON, Putney, Vt., for information relating to Registration of Pedigrees.

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The Year-Book for 1904 furnished free. Private Members, \$1.50; \$1.50 for each year for extending pedigree to five generations. \$1 per blank. All the above may be obtained from the Secretary, free for Registering.—To Members, \$1 for each entry of animals under two years old, and \$2 each for animals over two years old. Transfers, 25 cents each. Duplicate certificates of either entry or transfer 5 cents each. Double the above amounts in each case to Non-Members.

Herd Books, Volume 1 to 14, may be obtained from Treasurer—\$2.50 each, postage paid.

**American Jersey Cattle Club.**  
OFFICES—8 W. 17TH ST., NEW YORK.  
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Fees for Registering: To non-members, \$2 each head, male or female. To members, \$1 each head, male or female. All animals over two years old, double fee. To members, 25 cents each duplicate certificates of either entry or transfer 5 cents each. Double the above amounts in each case to Non-Members.

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**The Ontario Veterinary College, Limited.**  
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Patrons: Governor-General of Canada and Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. The most complete veterinary institution in America. All experimental teaching. Fee—Sixty-Five Dollars per Session. Session begins October 14th. Apply to Principal.

ANDREW SMITH, F. R. C. V. S., Toronto, Can. R. Libburn, Emerald Grove, Wis., breeder of the best strains of Aberdeen-Angus cattle. Established 1882. Also registered Shetland ponies.

**Chester Whites.**  
A fine lot of March pigs. Pairs and trios and shire pigs bred to lamb in March. W. D. HOWLAND, Jr., R. F. D. No. 1, Reading, Pa.

**Champion Hurd, 1900, 1901, 1902.**  
Of up-to-date prize-winning Chester Whites. Two herd won more prizes in 1900, 1901 and 1902 than any other herd in the world. If you want such shire pigs bred to lamb in March, J. W. DORSEY & SONS, Perry, Ill.

**Allen's Lung Balsam**  
Will positively break up a deep, sticking cough and relieve by other means.



## Poultry.

## Alphabet of Poultry Work.

A balanced ration implies a knowledge of the hen's requirements, a knowledge of the digestible nutrients used for growth and repairs and how best to feed them for a definite purpose.

Burn all litter from lice-infested houses. Cholera comes from overcrowding and filth.

Draughts and dampness result in roup, colds or cancer. Use preventives.

Early eggs come from early hatched pullets; early sitters are the results of early egg laying.

Filthy and damp quarters result in scaly legs and chickenpox.

Give a feed of grain soaked in kerosene once or twice a week through the winter as a tonic to the hens. Kerosene is fine medicine for colds.

Hatching is easy; it is the raising which is hard. Here is where experience counts. If you do not have it yourself, accept the experience of others. Many fail in the business because they won't be told how.

Incubators and brooders should be thoroughly cleaned after the season's work is over. Bad air in either will poison the chicks.

January is the month for mating breeding pens. Until then male birds should be housed apart from the females.

Keep the hens working for their living. This is best accomplished by feeding grain in eight inches of litter through the winter months.

Lie, the bane of poultry keepers, and eggs cannot be produced at the same time. If you raise lie, don't look for many eggs.

Make shipping coops large enough to give a square foot of space to each fowl when shipping a number. The coop should be high enough to allow the bird to stand upright without touching its head.

Never go into the business of preserving eggs until you have experimented with a dozen, breaking one every month in order to make observation.

One cannot buy eggs and preserve them with profit. Keep your own hens and have no males with them. This is important.

Poultry experiments conducted to ascertain the influence of food on eggs in excess results in a strong flavor in the eggs; oil of sassafras and celery oil did not noticeably alter the flavor in any ration fed.

Quite heavy feeding can be practiced in getting pullets in shape to lay. The same is true of moulting hens.

Rice, which can be bought if cracked or broken, from grocers at fifteen to twenty pounds for \$1, is a capital food for chicks.

Sulphur will practically clear a house of mites. Have house air-tight; put the sulphur in a safe vessel, pour alcohol over it and light.

The time to house the young stock is before the first storm.

Use judgment in culling. Don't winter a cull.

Vary the grain ration. Water vessels should be scalded frequently and raised high enough to avoid the droppings.

X dollars is not too much for a male to head the flock.

You pay the bills for lice, exposure to storms and drafty houses.

Zeal in attention to the above will keep the flock thrifty and put dollars in the till. —Poultry Advocate.

## Forcing the Egg Product.

When my birds are yarded or housed for winter, I feed three times a day: in the morning, grain, one quart to ten or twelve birds, scattering it over the straw and chaff upon the floor, which should be five or six inches deep, the grain being well forked into the litter. It is best to use a variety of grains alternately, such as wheat, oats, barley, buckwheat and cracked corn.

At noon I feed of clover and vegetables, such as mangels, turnips, potatoes, cabbage, etc., and at night all the mash they will eat. This mash is composed of finely cut clover, cornmeal, coarse bran, brown middlings, buckwheat middlings, gluten meal and meat meal. These are all thoroughly mixed together dry, and then made into a mash with boiling water, with a little salt dissolved in it. The old theory was to feed mash in the morning and grain at noon and night.

Realizing the need of an abundance of exercise for the birds in the winter time, I saw that by changing the programme I could get my birds to do better, and could feed heavier without danger from overfeeding. Feeding the warm mash on a cold morning, the birds would fill up their crops, get up on their perch and sit and shiver, while in feeding the small grain in the morning, they get off the perch, go right to scratching, and hustling for their breakfast, warm up their blood, start circulation and keep themselves strong and healthy. This theory, I found would work out all right in practice, as my birds did not get too fat and lazy, as they were apt to do by feeding in the old way. I feed the grain and vegetables to keep the bird, and then at night give them all the mash they can be induced to eat, of foods high in protein, that is easily digested while they are at rest, and it has never failed to produce a good, heavy yield of eggs. I find in this manner of feeding I can force my birds to heavy egg production without overfeeding.

The birds must be watched and care taken that the grain be all cleaned out of the litter each day, and if they do not clean up their usual heavy feed of mash in the evening, set out on the grain ration next morning so as to have them always hungry for the evening mash.

Be sure that they have some kind of good, sharp grit, such as mica crystals, oyster shells, etc., and good fresh water always before them in abundance. I believe that much of the poultry on the farms do not lay in the winter because of the lack of good, fresh, warm water. Many of the farmers never stop to think that their poultry needs any water, but when they are led to think and to realize that an egg is two-thirds water, they will soon see that hens cannot lay eggs without water. —J. Y. Patton, New Castle, Pa.

## Inside the Henhouse.

Not a nest box, dust box, feed trough, grit box or water crock is to be on the floor. All these must be attached to the walls so the hens can work under them, except the trough for soft feed, and these are to be hung up to the ceiling as soon as they are empty. The litter may be oat, wheat or buckwheat straw. We prefer the last named because it does not become impacted, but the grain settles down through, compelling "biddy" to work hard to get it. It should be forked over frequently and renewed before it becomes too foul or broken.

The bath is just as essential to the hen as to the man. She does not need hers in water. Dust is what she wants. If you did not save some fine road dust last

summer you can probably secure some fine road dust now. Sift them through a fine sieve so that all clinders are taken out. Place at least a bushel of these in a box about 2½ feet square and one foot deep, throw in a little grain and get them started. Stir the ashes up from the bottom every few days, and the hens will soon learn that these ashes are there for them to use, and they will make everything in that house dusty. The box should be so placed that the sun can shine into it and warm the ashes. Wood ashes are not good. The alkali irritates the skin and discolors the shanks. A little sulphur mixed through the ashes is good. Some are mixing acidulated South Carolina rock-phosphate with the ashes with good effect, and some use this exclusively for a dust bath. I have not tried it, but I fear it is too heavy. —T. E. Orr, Beaver, Pa.

## Poultry Dull and Steady.

The conditions of our market on poultry are almost identical this week with our report to you last week. The steady cold, severe winter weather has had a tendency to check the receipts, and we anticipate no special change in any prices for some weeks to come. We should see higher prices than what we now have if it were not for the fact that the trade are well supplied with frozen stock in our local freezers, and this is going out in large quantities at the present time which will have a tendency to keep the market steady.

Fancy nearby fowls are wanted and the price obtained is 16 to 17 cents; of course some small inferior stock would have to be sold at less. Real soft-meated, large, fancy-roasting chickens are also short and would sell at good prices, 25 cents and upwards. Fancy capons are also wanted at the present time from 22 to 24 cents. Turkeys are practically through coming in from points in New England, but if any were here they would sell for very good prices, say 22 to 23 cents.

This year as a whole has been an exceptionally favorable one for the poultry raiser, and it ought to be a stimulus to a much larger product of this kind for years to come. It should become a very large source of income to the farmer if properly managed, and the poultry produced in New England is of a superior quality and always commands higher prices for fine stock than any goods shipped from Western points, so that really the Western farmer is in no sense a competitor with the New England farmer on poultry raising. The constantly increasing demand for the New England product should certainly act as a great stimulus to the farmers increasing the same.

You will notice in the summer time, when you let a hen out she runs away and picks up a blade of grass, then she will run along and pick up a weed seed and a piece of gravel; she is moving around all the time busy after something. My idea is to make them do this same thing in the winter time. Throw their feed amongst some litter, using part of the house as a scratching pen; give her those things in the winter time, if you possibly can, that she naturally gets in the summer time. Use cabbage and cut clover hay for green feed. —J. L. Herbst, Sparta, Wis.

## Horticultural.

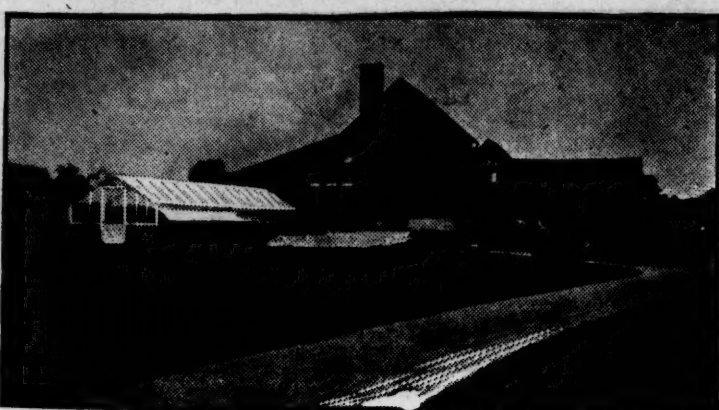
## Acres of Violets.

Practically all of the violets that are in the great New York market, as well as the other large cities of the State, are grown within an area of about twenty-five square miles in Dutchess County and near the Hudson river. Farmers and townpeople alike are engaged in their propagation, so that the industry employs hundreds of people and involves an investment of probably more than half a million dollars. This year it is estimated that about one hundred million violets will be shipped out of Rhinebeck, most of them going to the Metropolis.

It is only recently that this town has become thus distinguished. Within the last five years, and particularly the last two, the production of violets has rapidly increased, until now there are about two hundred separate greenhouses in and about Rhinebeck. Last year about sixty new houses were built. It is said that twenty more are planned for construction next spring if the business this winter is found to be as profitable as it has been in the past.

Labor is scarce in Rhinebeck. The violet growers demand constant help. Young men, as well as young women, are engaged in the greenhouses, and the particular work of the women is picking and arranging the flowers in clusters. But in describing the various processes in the progress of the violet from the ground to "my lady's" belt, I had best begin at the beginning. Just as the plants cease blooming in the spring they produce runners like those which are a part of the strawberry plant. These runners are cut off by the grower and planted in sand; and that is the beginning of the new plant. The new violets grow all summer in the sand boxes and in the fall they are transplanted to the greenhouses. These have been made ready with great care. Every year the beds in the greenhouses are filled with fresh earth. The old earth with the old plants in it is hauled away to make ready for the new crop. Those who have greenhouses in town must buy their soil from the farmers, paying seventy-five cents a wagon-load. This earth is enriched with manure, which is bought in New York city, shipped to Rhinebeck by the railroad, and which costs the violet grower, including freight, \$2 a ton. So that to replenish the beds of the greenhouses each year costs \$100 or so.

When the new soil under the glass is ready, the violet plants are set out in it about nine inches apart. At first they need large quantities of water. The beds are flooded once or twice a week. The beds and plants continue giving its flowers until spring. The average number of blossoms on each plant from fall to the spring following is about seventy. The greenhouses are twenty or twenty-four feet wide and one hundred, 150 or two hundred feet long. Some of them contain eight thousand plants. The violet's enemies soon appear. The flies and the spiders are very small, but persistent. The "flies" are like small plant lice. They multiply rapidly and attack leaves and stems, soon killing the plant. When the insects come (from no one knows where) the violet grower must "gas" his house. Usually a chlorine gas is generated in the greenhouse, but it must be used very carefully. If too dense it will destroy the plants. If not dense enough, the insects will survive it. So the violet man must exercise great caution. A common misfortune of the violet grower is to have a greenhouse "burnt out" when he used gas that was too strong. This does not mean, necessarily, that the plants are killed, but that they are stunted, and the flowers are faded and lose their fragrance.



BUILDINGS AND GREENHOUSE OF THE HARTFORD SCHOOL OF HORTICULTURE. See descriptive article.

Another important consideration is temperature. During the day the air in the greenhouse should be kept at about 55° F.; at night it may be permitted to cool ten degrees.

Every morning, usually, the violets are picked. This is done before nine o'clock, and as they are gathered they are arranged in bunches just as you would arrange them if you picked them in the fields—only the bunches of the violet grower always contain fifty blossoms exactly, or sometimes one hundred; and these larger bunches are called "extras." A border of leaves is arranged around the flowers—this is girls' work—and each bunch is tied with violet-colored twine. Then the flowers stand for two hours in cold water to freshen them. After that they are packed in boxes, surrounded by four or five thicknesses of oil paper; and the violet grower carries his day's product to the express company's office. The express receipts at Rhinebeck for violets alone amount in a year to \$7000— which suggests the volume of the business. The 12.21 P. M. train from Rhinecliff carries the violets to New York city, arriving about 3.30 P. M.

The boxes are delivered by the express company to the wholesale dealers, most of whom are in Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth streets, in the block between Broadway and Sixth avenue. The next morning the florists all over the city have fresh violets. The price to the grower varies widely—from fifteen cents to several dollars a hundred—depending on the quality of the flowers and the demand for them. At the holidays and at Easter the greatest number are shipped to town and the prices are highest. The wholesaler makes a profit of about fifteen per cent. in his transactions. Can you tell me what the retailer makes? —Leslie's Weekly.

## A School of Horticulture.

Instructing a little out of the usual lines is given by Hartford (Ct.) School of Horticulture, which had last year 1900 pupils who had taken one or more courses. The instruction on another page shows a part of the buildings. Besides the school garden work for boys and girls in summer, there is a winter course now under way in root grafting, planting fine seed, greenhouse and hotbed work. There are also courses in botany and nature work for older persons, and instruction is given in basketing and various handicrafts.

The "nature works" included lessons on buds, catkins, branching, twigs, seeds, germination, plants as a whole, environment, insects, birds, pond life, uses of plants, plant calendar, work of plants, roots, stem, leaf, flower, pollination, fecundation, etc. Each lesson consisted of an open-air lecture, followed by a collecting trip. The gardens with the observation and fertilizer plots, together with the nursery and fruits, cover several acres of land.

Horticultural investments offer more in fun, more in health and happiness, and far more in cash. In addition to individual holdings, the time is not far distant when associated capital will be developing large horticultural properties on lands now neglected by present owners. Let the thousand or two thousand dollar salary go to those who have no ambition to be independent, or the six to eight per cent. dividend to those who are incapable of investing to better advantage. —J. H. Hale.

In peas, I have abandoned the smooth varieties. I plant the Graders, Laxton, American Champion and Telephone. Plant your peas quite shallow if you do not wish them to rot. —L. R. Kinney, Worcester, County, Mass.

## Current Happenings.

Zintka, the Indian boy found on the body of her dead mother two days after the battle of Wounded Knee, thirteen years ago, is the adopted daughter of General and Mrs. Colby, formerly of Nebraska, but now of Washington, D. C. She has been attending the public schools of the national capital, but has now been placed at All Saints School at Sioux Falls, where she will under the guardianship of the Rev. W. H. Hare, Episcopal bishop of South Dakota. Lost Bird, as she has been called, is said to have developed into an intelligent and bright-faced maiden who has fulfilled the expectations of her kind and philanthropic protectors.

It is pleasant to learn from My Neighbor, the Monthly Journal of the Episcopal City Mission, that more than thirty-three thousand dollars have been received or pledged already toward the fifty thousand dollars required for the new building for the Sailors' Haven. That the hardy mariners appreciate the noble institution is shown by the following lines by a veteran who partook of the Christmas cheer at the Haven:

"Do you know the Sailors' Haven, six and forty Water Street, Charlestown, Massachusetts, where I had my Christmas treat, With about six hundred seamen, and the best of grub to eat."

How the ladies of the Haven, worked hard the whole day long, A carving up the turkeys, and joining in each song.

I thank each lady waiter, I thank the Great Creator, I hope in twelve months later, that a Haven four times greater

Will be built for a larger throng." This effusion, which may lack art, but has plenty of heart, Mr. Stanton H. King says was handed him by an old "Shell Back," whose every hair is a rope yarn, and every drop of blood a drop of Stockholm tar.

The late James A. Woolson of Cambridge, so long identified with prominent business interests in Boston, and at one time president of the Mercantile Library Association in the days of its great prosperity, left by his will \$1,200,000 in trust to his widow and two daughters, and for their issue as long as they lived, but on their deaths, \$600,000 is to go to Boston University, \$300,000 to the Wesleyan Academy at Wilbraham and \$300,000 to Radcliffe College. The three in-

stitutions named also receive \$5000 each, without unnecessary delay, and on the death of the testator's nephew Boston University, in addition, is also to receive \$20,000, to be devoted to various scholarships. Other institutions in Boston and Cambridge are beneficiaries under the will. Mr. Woolson was for nearly sixty years associated with his cousin, William Claflin, a former governor of Massachusetts, having entered the store of Lee Claflin and his son William in 1846. Mr. Woolson was one of the incorporators of the Suffolk Savings Bank of Boston, a director in the National Bank of Redemption, vice-president of the Boston Five Cent Savings Bank and a director in the First National Bank of Cambridge. He was also a member of the firm of Loring, Tolman & Tupper, bankers, of this city.

It is not generally known, perhaps, that the Gilbert Museum of Amherst College contains one of the finest collections of stone, bone, pottery and metal implements belonging to the old-time Indians that is to be found in New England. Dr. Edward Hitchcock really originated the museum when in 1837 he gave to the college one thousand specimens to be preserved and placed on public exhibition, and some fifteen years later George H. Gilbert of Ware gave two thousand dollars to be expended for additions to the museum which then received his name. The total cash gifts received from others interested was \$3500.

The collection now numbers three thousand specimens, which were found mostly in the Connecticut valley, between New Haven, Ct., and Hanover, N. H. The Springfield Republican, in referring to a portion of the rare collection, says: "It contains both modern and ancient pipes, of which some are made of stone and others of pottery. Some are shaped to represent a human head and some are bird-like in form. There are also some catlinite red pipes of famous Indian chiefs. One of them formerly belonged to the Sioux chief, Cut Nose. The largest thing in the collection is a face-simile that the inscription on it, Dighton, believed to be the oldest inscribed rock in the United States. The face-simile was given and made by Lucien I. Blake, who was graduated from Amherst in 1877." Dr. Hitchcock has recently rearranged the museum, and through the generosity of friends of the college has completed a catalogue of the specimens, in which there are half-tone pictures, accompanied by an explanatory text of great interest to antiquaries. George H. Gilbert, who did so much toward the establishment of the museum, was a native of Brooklyn, Ct., and became a successful woolen manufacturer at Ware and Gilbertville, and represented his district in the State legislature at different times in both its upper and lower branches. He died in Ware in 1889, leaving behind him the reputation of a progressive and public-spirited man who did not confine his attention to his immediate business.

Wimodaugh is an association in Washington, D. C., where women may take up special courses of study at a nominal cost and have social relaxation and enjoyment beside. Its peculiar name is formed from some of the letters of the words wife, mother, daughter and sister, and it was given to the organization by Miss Emma M. Gillette, a lawyer by profession, and one of its founders. The society was incorporated June 2, 1890. The courses are elective, and they comprise stenography, typewriting, English branches, dress-making, French, Spanish, domestic economy, physical culture, elocution, dramatic art, fencing and dancing. The fees are one dollar for entrance and one dollar a month for two lessons a week, of an hour each, in any branch of study that may be chosen outside of dress-making, dancing and fencing. Classes are in session for ten months in the year, beginning Sept. 1. The social side of the association is promoted by a reception to the headquarters each Wednesday, to which all members and their friends are invited, by an assembly each month and by a series of progressive-supper parties throughout the winter. This society is of great benefit to the women who come to the District of Columbia from the farms of Virginia, from the Maryland shores and from the mountain regions of the South, as well as to many from the larger cities who fail to obtain the Government positions they desire and who are obliged to seek the means of livelihood in the shops. Wimodaugh is an absolutely democratic institution, and in its classes the wife of the senator or representative and the girl of narrow means meet on the same ground as fellow students. In short, the society endeavors to do for women what the Young Men's Christian Association at the Capital does for men, without, however, taking any religious sectional stand.

## The Saunterer.

In the Japanese tea store yesterday I noticed that each feminine attendant had the flag of the far-away Eastern archipelago pinned on her frock. If I were inclined to make a bad pun, I would say it was very pretty Japanese wear. In this connection I may recall a rhyme that used to be sung at the Boston Museum when Fanny Brown, who married Fred Buckley, the violinist, was to the fore:

"Say she, my little man, What the devil would you do In the islands of Japan?"

Another memory was awakened the other day when I heard some one humming the once-popular air, "We Met By Chance In Usual Way." It brought back the light of other days when little Madame Von Bergman used to warble at the Boston Theatre in broken English,

"We met by chance, At casual way."

This always brought down the house, for it was funnier than a goat. I overheard this conversation when a stray cat came in out of the storm to enjoy the warmth of a down-town office, not long since.

There was some debate about the sex of the animal, and one of the port male clerks said:

"All cats are femininely selfish."

This brought back the retort from a pretty typewriter:

"All dogs are masculine because they are always stuffing themselves and hide the bones when they have gorged to repletion."

A box of chocolates appeared on her desk shortly after. Where it came from, who can tell?

A friend of mine from Philadelphia who was visiting in this city last week, was invited to a large dinner-party. Unfortunately he had left his evening suit at home, so he went to a neighboring tailor's shop and hired one for the occasion. He left word to have it sent to his hotel, but when he came to put it on he discovered that it was big enough for Daniel Lambert of adipose fame. He got into it, however, and said he had much ado to find himself in its voluminous folds. The tailor had evidently misaw two suits up, for at the same time he saw a fleshy man bursting the seams of garments that were many sizes too small for him. Those who have read "Handy Andy" will remember that the hero of that lively tale delivered by mistake a razor to a woman, who had a suggestion of a moustache, instead of a fan. The shaving incident was, of course, intended for the brilliant beard of a mere man. Blunders like those mentioned add to the gaiety of nations, though they do not increase the merriment of those who suffer from them.

I am somewhat lame at times, and when my gouty foot is at its worst stage of inflammation, a short woman with short arms invariably stands in front of me in an "L" car. She pretends she cannot reach the strap over her head, and wobbles about, until I am forced to give up my seat for her accommodation. Then I experience the pleasure of having my sore pedal extremity trodden upon until I utter a big, big "D." I wish all members of the gentler sex were most divinely tall as well as most divinely fair.

Pity the sorrow of a poor actor who is out of employment through the burning of the Theatre. An unfortunate man of the dramatic profession came to me the other day and wanted me to hire a hall for him, so that he could give an entertainment for his benefit. He said I could stay in the box office and pay myself out of the receipts there, so I would be sure to lose nothing by my generosity. I was weak enough to comply with his request, but the house showed a beggarly account of empty boxes. I was an "angel" who had to put off paying a note the next day on account of a limited exchequer. The worst of the whole affair is that the actor called me the meanest man in Boston, because I would not buy him a ticket to New York and pay his board there for a week or two. How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is to have a thankless histrionic acquaintance!

A man who had evidently been drinking several Scotch high balls, knocked my hat off in the street one bitter cold day recently, and it rolled under the wheels of a passing vehicle, where it was quickly reduced to pulp. When I censured him for his clumsiness, he said:

"Hoot man, a hat's a hat for a that."

After this impudence, I promptly knocked his derby into the gutter, with the remark:

"Eh, laddie, how's a wye noo?"

There came to my house to supper recently an old-fashioned cousin, who speaks his mind bluntly, and when the mistress of my home and heart asked him if he would have another cup of tea, he replied:

"No, I am filled up to the blue!"

I did not like to ask him what this extraordinary statement meant, but I surmised that it referred to a time when there were blue rims around the vessels in which the beverage, which cheers but not inebriates, was served. O. A. Taft, of old Point Shirley hotel fame, used to say when any special drink was brought to the table:

"This is dressed with good twenty-nine cent butter."

He seemed to consider this a joke, but none of his guests appeared to understand its significance.

I imagine, however, it related to some pleasantry that existed when the figures he quoted marked the top-notch price for cream that had been through the churning process.

The peach crop in western Massachusetts will be light this year. There are some large orchards in the Connecticut valley, but the fruit buds are said to be mostly frozen by the continued severe cold. Prof. F. A. Waugh, horticulturist of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, says that not only are the fruit buds destroyed, but in many cases the wood is killed also.

Mr. Frederick Weyerhaeuser, president of the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company, has signed an agreement with the Bureau of Forestry by which the bureau agrees to prepare working plans for the management of about 1,300,000 acres of the company's timber lands in Washington. The Northern Pacific Railway Company has also requested that the Bureau of Forestry prepare working plans for its enormous timber land holdings in Washington and Idaho.

The value of the commerce of the countries fronting upon the scene of hostilities in the Orient aggregates about \$600,000,000 per annum, and the value of the commerce of the United States with those countries aggregates over \$100,000,000 per annum. The prospect of war resulted in the placing in the United States of orders from Japan for four and from Russia for meats, the general trend of exportation to the four countries fronting upon the scene of hostilities has been downward during the period in which this subject has been actively discussed. To Japan the exports from the United States during the month of December, 1903, were \$2,283,245 in value, against \$2,811,889 in December of the preceding year, and for the entire calendar year 1903 were about \$1,600,000 less than in the preceding year. To Asiatic Russia the exports from the United States were \$716,274 in 1903, against \$688,711 in 1902 and \$1,013,320 in 1901. To China our exports during 1903 were materially below those of the preceding year, being for the month of December \$641,373, against \$1,857,723 in December, 1902, and for the entire year \$14,970,138, against \$22,698,282 in 1902. This reduction occurs chiefly in cotton cloths, of which our total exportation to China in December, 1903, was but 3,665,364 yards, against 29,882,544 yards in December of the preceding year, and for the entire year \$1,870,138, against \$22,698,282 in 1902. This reduction occurs chiefly in cotton cloths, of which our total exportation to China in December, 1903, was but 3,665,364 yards, against 29,882,544 yards in December of the preceding year, and for the entire year \$1,870,138, against \$22,698,282 in 1902.

The [National] Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, representing the farmers of the United States, has called attention of Congress to the following matters upon which legislation is desired: National aid to road building, additional power to the interstate commerce commission, a pure food law, additional compensation to rural mail carriers, the establishment of a parcels post and the consolidation of the bureau of forestry with the Department of Agriculture.

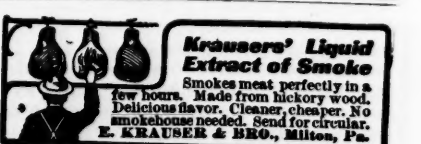
The Agricultural Appropriation bill was reported to the Senate by Senator Proctor. Amendments made by the Senate committee aggregate \$361,140, making the total amount appropriated \$6,072,280. Among the important items of increase are \$30,000 for public road inquiry, \$50,000 for bureau of animal industry, \$50,000 for experiments in animal breeding, \$40,000 for bureau of forestry, \$40,000 for bureau of chemistry and \$35,000 for bureau of soils.

The committee on agriculture in the Massachusetts Legislature had a continued hearing last week on two bills relating to trespassing on

farm lands. Most of the witnesses were from the western part of the State, but J. C. Oils of Norwell said he owned some two hundred acres, and had been troubled for years by persons who tore down his walls and destroyed his property. Posting the land with signs only resulted in their having one thing more to fear down. Rev. C. H. Hutchins of Concord told the committee that he owned land on which berries had grown profusely, but he had never been able to gather any himself, though people had come to his door to sell berries that had grown on his own land. It was the same with chestnuts in the fall of the year, and as many as fifty Italians had been counted on his land at one time. David J. Maloney, a Boston attorney, appeared for a number of people of Berkshire County, who have developed an industry of collecting and selling ferns or bracken for decoration. These people claim that with a few minor changes, the present law is ample.

Summary of the war: Feb. 6, Japan broke off diplomatic relations with Russia; Feb. 7, the Japanese seized Manchuria, Corea, as a base of operations, and began landing troops in Corea; Feb. 8 (midnight), three Russian vessels were disabled by Japanese torpedo boats at Port Arthur. A general engagement between the hostile fleets in the bay; Feb. 9, Russian fleet followed in the forenoon; Feb. 10, Russian fleet Varang and gunboat Korietz sunk off Chemulpo, Corea, after an hour's battle with a Japanese squadron. Secretary Hay sent a note to the European powers asking them to co-operate in preserving the neutrality of China; Feb. 10, the czar issued a "supreme manifesto," or declaration of war, accusing Japan of bad faith. The Mikado also issued a declaration of war; Feb. 11, President Roosevelt issued a proclamation of neutrality. Approval of Secretary Hay's note was expressed by several powers. The Russian fleet sailed from the Baltic for the far East; Feb. 12, British steamer Pu-Ping fired on by Russian at Port Arthur. The American steamer Albatross, the Russian transport Yenisei blown up by a submarine mine at Port Arthur and ninety-five lives lost; Feb. 13, three Russian cruisers reported torpedoed in the Straits of Tsushima. The State Department received notice of France's acceptance of Secretary Hay's note on China, also that Russia had waived her objections to the note; Feb. 14, more than four hundred Japanese who landed near Dally were said to have been slain by Russian. Admiral Alexieff reported the landing of nineteen thousand Japanese troops at Chemulpo; Feb. 15, reported that eleven Russian vessels were injured in the several battles at Port Arthur. Japanese crossed the Yalu river; Feb. 16, another Russian cruiser sunk by a mine at Port Arthur; Feb. 17, Japanese torpedo Russian warship at Port Arthur; Feb. 18, eighty thousand Japanese troops along the Yalu river. Battle reported.

James E. Halligan of Rosindale, who since his graduation in 1900 has been an assistant chemist at the experiment station of the Massachusetts College, has accepted a call to a similar position at New Orleans at an increased salary, and leaves for the South about March 1. The news has recently been received that Henry T. Bailey, a graduate of the class of 1895 and later a professor at the Connecticut Agricultural College, who was last spring appointed government entomologist of the British West Indies, has been reappointed for a term of three years. His headquarters will be at Barbados. The professors at the college have had more than the usual number of calls for Farmers' Institute work this winter. Professors Brooks, Cooley and Waugh have been in special demand as lecturers at such meetings. During the midwinter examinations a portion of the college electric-light plant became disabled, leaving the college building without light one night. Until the necessary repairs can be made, light from the town lighting plant has been arranged for. It is hoped to have the repairs completed by the end of next week.



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For Dogs, Cats, Horses, Cattle and Sheep. All Skin Diseases they are subject to can be cured by this valuable remedy. Also

## GRAVES' MEDICATED SOAP

For Fleas and Lice for Dogs, Cats and Horses. Sure to kill them quick.

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## THE ANGORA CAT.

A Superb Edition, Beautifully Illustrated, Telling How to Select, Breed, Train and Manage Them.

Only book of its kind. Contains most important chapters on the Origin, How to Train, Care for and Breeding, Proper Food, Breeding and Mating, Exhibition and Disposition, Feeding, Washing and Grooming, Diseases, The Correct Type, Different Colors, besides interesting stories of how they eat, drink, play and sleep; in fact, everything about them. Over thirty-five full-page illustrations from life. "My Cat Tom," "A Cat Letter," "Rats," "A Forgotten Prisoner," "The Housewife's Cat," "The Siamese Cat," "The Hospital Cat," are all interesting tales. The volume, which forms an excellent treatise on the cat, forms a



The fruit experts have not all lost hope for next year's crop. Superintendent C. T. Fox of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Department takes a very cheerful view in a personal letter just received: "I believe that the cold weather we have experienced has been favorable to the fruit crop," writes Superintendent Fox. "The buds have been

The offers of assistance to Baltimore and the expressions of sympathy, in fact, from over the country, exhibited human nature at its best, and showed that there was

Latest cable advices to G. A. Cochrane from foreign apple markets would indicate very healthy condition of things in all of them. American and Canadian apples are in great demand, and notwithstanding the liberals are liberal in comparison to former years, they are readily absorbed by the demand. In fact as far as Some Bismarck apples landing at other slack, the way can be made, but bringing remarkably good prices considering quality. Such are selling to the nets here in Boston from \$1.75 to \$2.50, the perfectly sound lots are selling to the nets of \$3, and in some cases for very easy \$3.25 to made. Ben Davis, Ribetones, Northern Spies and other red varieties are the same. There is an excellent conservative demand for fancy Russets, and the Bismarck are given a good price of \$2.75 to \$3.25. Some very fine Golden Acres brought prices that gave nets of \$2.50 here in Boston. Everything indicative

And are American cities safe in the future from repetitions of the terrible experience of Chicago, Baltimore and New York? We think not. But eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, and therein is our apparent safety.

Very many persons in this city must still have vivid recollections of the Great Boston Fire, which occurred on Nov. 9 and 10, 1872, and which, in a month, destroyed the Chicago fire, on Saturday evening, and the stores and warehouses of the city had been closed after the labors of a busy week. Both merchant and clerk were looking forward to the rest which comes on the first day of the week.

At about half-past seven o'clock an alarm fire was sounded from box 52, since called

resilient and up-to-date farmers and gardeners should not miss the opportunity to read these pamphlets, for they are packed with practical, practical gardeners as to the increased use, even, the use of sand and sandy soil, through the use of the Mapes Manures. Growers of potatoes and garden vegetables, growers of strawberries, will be benefited by the use of the Mapes Manures. The world's record corn crops have been raised through the use of Mapes Manures. Professor Mapes proves that corn can be raised comparatively sure crop with judicious fertilization, and can be made a renovating crop, and not an exhausting crop, as is generally supposed, bringing up the land to the condition for growing the next crop, besides making money from the start. There can be no doubt that the Mapes Manures have the highest character and best reputation, and that no fertilizers exceed them in value or practical use.

**Most Extensive Grower of**  
**Grape Vines**  
In America  
Introducer of  
**IMPRELL'S EARLY . . . The Best Grape**  
**JOSELYN . . . The Best Concord**  
**LY . . . The Best Currant**  
Small Fruits . . . Catawago, N. Y.  
**Geo. S. JOSELYN, Paducah, Ky.**

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## The Markets.

## BOSTON LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

ARRIVALS OF LIVE STOCK AT WATERBURY AND BRIGHTON.  
For the week ending Feb. 24, 1904.

Species	From	Quantity	Value
Cattle	Sheep	10,456	29,352
Hogs	10,456	10,456	10,456
Sheep	10,456	10,456	10,456
Horses	302	302	302

## Prices on Northern Cattle.

BAFF—Per hundred pounds on total weight of side, tail and head, extra, \$4.00; first quality, \$3.50; second quality, \$3.00; third quality, \$2.50; a few choice single pairs, \$7.00; some of the poorest bulls, etc., \$2.00. Western steers, \$3.00; store cattle—Farrow cows, \$1.50; fancy milch cows, \$3.00; milch cows, \$2.00; yearlings, \$1.00; year-olds, \$1.50; three-year-olds, \$2.00.

## SHEEP—Per pound live weight, 2.00; extra, 4.00; sheep and lambs per 100 lbs., \$3.00; 4.00; lambs, \$4.00.

## FAT HOGS—Per pound, Western, 6.00; live weight, shot, wholesale—1, retail, \$2.00; country dressed hogs, \$1.00.

## TAL CATTLE—\$1.00; country lots, \$2.00.

## HIDES—Brighton—\$1.00; country lots, \$2.00.

## CALF SKINS—1.00; dairy skins, \$2.00.

## TALLOW—Brighton, 3.00; country lots, 2.00.

## FATS—4.00.

## Cattle, Sheep, Hogs.

## Maine.

## At Brighton.

## J. H. Kilby.

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@47.50; 10 cows, \$35.00. J. S. Henry, 10 cows, \$45.00; 12 cows, \$35.00.

## Veal Calves.

Trade good and full prices paid; sales largely at 7.00. Sheldon & Hill sold 4 calves for \$17. A. D. Kilby sold 20 calves, 100 lbs., at 7.00. C. D. Lewis sold calves at 7.00.

## Late Arrivals.

Wednesday—The market for milch cows opened quiet, but improved as the day advanced; more buyers than for a number of weeks, and cattle were late at market this morning and demand good; butchers were ready to invest and prices equal to last week. The Libby Company had in nearly 60 milch cows on commission at a range of \$25.00, mostly \$30.00. Arcos took County cows are selling around \$40. T. J. McCreary sold 4 cows, of 100 lbs., at \$3.50; 5 cows, at \$3.00. N. H. Woodward, 3 cows, \$2.00; 40 W. Cullen, 1 cow; 10 cows, \$3.00; 1 at \$2.00. J. S. Henry sold choice cows at \$30.00; 10 cows, \$4.00; 12 cows, \$3.00; G. H. Barnes, 4 choice cows, \$30 each; 1 at \$35 each. J. S. Henry, 1 best cow, 1100 lbs., at \$4.00; 1 of 970 lbs., at \$3.00; 1 of 910 lbs., at \$2.00.

## Store Cows.

None at market.

## BOSTON PRODUCE MARKET.

## Wholesale Prices.

## Country Fresh Killed.

## Northern and Eastern.

## Chickens, large choice, 10.00.

## Chickens, Phil., good to fancy, 12.00.

## Ducks, 10.00.

## Fowls, 10.00.

## Geese, 10.00.

## Pigeons, tame, choice, 10.00.

## Squabs, 10.00.

## Western dry packed, 10.00.

## Turkeys, choice, 10.00.

## Turkeys, fair, 10.00.

## Turkeys, No. 3, 10.00.

## Broilers, common, 10.00.

## Chickens, choice, large, 10.00.

## Fowls, fair to choice, 10.00.

## Old cocks, 10.00.

## Ducks, spring, 10.00.

## Geese, large, 10.00.

## Capons, large, 10.00.

## Pigeons, small, 10.00.

## Receipts Feb. 26, were 727 packages. Receipts for the week have been 5013 packages, compared with 2239 packages for the same period last year.

## Live Poultry.

## Fowls, 10.00.

## Roosters, 10.00.

## Butter.

## NORFOLK—Sorted sizes quoted below include 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 220, 230, 240, 250, 260, 270, 280, 290, 300, 310, 320, 330, 340, 350, 360, 370, 380, 390, 400, 410, 420, 430, 440, 450, 460, 470, 480, 490, 500, 510, 520, 530, 540, 550, 560, 570, 580, 590, 600, 610, 620, 630, 640, 650, 660, 670, 680, 690, 700, 710, 720, 730, 740, 750, 760, 770, 780, 790, 800, 810, 820, 830, 840, 850, 860, 870, 880, 890, 900, 910, 920, 930, 940, 950, 960, 970, 980, 990, 1000.

## New York twins, extra, 10.00.

## New York twins, firsts, 10.00.

## New York twins, last made, 10.00.

## Vermont twins, firsts, 10.00.

## Vermont twins, last made, 10.00.

## Wisconsin twins, last made, 10.00.

## Sage, 10.00.

## Eggs.

## Nearby and Cape fancy, 10.00.

## Eastern choice fresh, 10.00.

## Western choice fresh, 10.00.

## Meat, 10.00.

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## FLOUR AND GRAIN.

Flour—The market is firm but quiet. Spring patent, \$5.00; 50 lbs. \$2.50.

Spring, clear and straight, \$4.50; 50 lbs. \$2.25.

Winter, clear and straight, \$4.25; 50 lbs. \$2.12.

Corn Meal—\$1.00; 10 lbs. \$0.50; 25 lbs. \$1.25.

For old corn, \$1.00; 10 lbs. \$0.50; 25 lbs. \$1.25.

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## Our Homes.

The Workbox.  
KNITTED TUMBLER DOLLY.

This dolly was knitted of No. 100 linen thread on two No. 19 steel needles. Larger needles and coarser thread will produce larger dolly plain once. (k means plain knitting; 2 means thread over twice; p means seam or puri; S means slip off to other needle without knitting.)

1st row—Slip 1, knit 26, knit 3 together, over twice, knit 3 together (\*) (over twice, knit 3 together, knit 1) 4 times, over twice, knit 1, out of next stitch, knit 1 and puri 1, in last stitch, knit 1, puri 1, knit 1.

2d row—Slip 1, knit 6, puri 1 (knit 3, puri 1) 4 times (\*) knit 2, puri 1, knit 26, leave 2 stitches on needle unknitted, turn.

3d row—Slip 1, knit 26, knit 3 together, over twice, knit 3 together (\*) (over twice, knit 3 together, knit 1) 4 times, over twice, knit 1, out of next stitch, knit 1 and puri 1, in last stitch, knit 1, puri 1, knit 1.

4th row—Blind off 5, knit 2, puri 1 (knit 3, puri 1) 4 times (\*), knit 4, puri 1, knit 26, leave 4 unknitted.

5th row—Slip 1, knit 20, knit 3 together, over twice, knit 3; now work like first row (\*).

6th row—Work like second row, (\*), knit 6, puri 1, knit 20, leave 6.

7th row—Slip 1, knit 2, puri 1, knit 3 together, over twice, knit 7, like third row (\*).

8th row—Like fourth row to (\*), knit 8, puri 1, knit 17, leave 8.

9th row—Slip 1, knit 14, knit 3 together, over twice, knit 9, like first row from (\*).

10th row—Like second row to (\*), knit 10, puri 1, knit 14, leave 10.

11th row—Slip 1, knit 11, knit 3 together, over twice, knit 11, narrow, over twice, knit 3 together, over twice, narrow, knit 2, like third row from (\*).

12th row—Like fourth row to (\*), knit 11, puri 1, knit 2, puri 1, knit 4, puri 1, knit 11, leave 12 unknitted.

13th row—Slip 1, knit 8, knit 3 together, over twice, knit 12, narrow, over twice, knit 5, over twice, narrow, knit 2, like first row from (\*).

14th row—Like second row to (\*), knit 4, puri 1, knit 6, puri 1, knit 4, puri 1, knit 8, leave 14 unknitted.

15th row—Slip 1, knit 8, over twice, knit 3 together, knit 2, over twice, knit 3 together, knit 1, knit 3 together, over twice, knit 2, knit 3 together (\*) (over twice, knit 1, knit 3 together) 4 times, over twice, knit 7.

16th row—Like fourth row to (\*), (4 plain, puri 1) 3 times, 7 plain, leave 16 unknitted.

17th row—Slip 1, knit 7, over twice, knit 3 together, narrow, knit 1, over twice, knit 3 together, over twice, knit 1, narrow, knit 3 together (\*) (over twice, 1 plain, knit 3 together) 4 times, over twice, knit 1, knit 1 and puri 1 in next stitch, in last stitch, knit 1, puri 1, knit 1.

18th row—Like second row to (\*), knit 4, puri 1, knit 2, puri 1, knit 4, puri 1, knit 6, leave 18.

19th row—Slip 1, knit 6, over twice, knit 3 together, knit 3, over twice, knit 3 together, like fifteenth row from (\*).

20th row—Like fourth row to (\*), knit 10, puri 1, knit 5, leave 20.

21st row—Slip 1, knit 5, over twice, knit 3 together, knit 5, knit 3 together, like seventeenth row from (\*).

22d row—Like second row to (\*), knit 8, puri 1, knit 4, leave 22.

23d row—Slip 1, knit 4, over twice, knit 3 together, knit 3, knit 3 together, like fifteenth row from (\*).

24th row—Like fourth row to (\*), 6 plain, puri 1, knit 3, leave 24.

25th row—Slip 1, knit 3, over twice, knit 3 together, knit 1, knit 3 together, like seventeenth row from (\*).

26th row—Like second row to (\*), knit 4, puri 1, knit 2, leave 26.

27th row—Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, slip 2, narrow, pass the 2 slipped stitches over narrow one, like fifteenth row from (\*).

28th row—Like fourth row to (\*), knit 2, puri 1, knit 2. Repeat from first row 14 times, then blind off loosely and join neatly to cast on stitches.

## The Gospel of Much Chewing.

Disease is nothing but dirt, according to Horace Fletcher, whose gospel of clean eating has attracted the attention and co-operation of many well-known physiologists, among whom are Sir Michael Foster, formerly of Cambridge, England, and Prof. Russell H. Chittenden of Yale. It is asserted by Mr. Fletcher and his followers that his method of eating not only renders the body clean within, but also is a panacea for most, if not all, of the ills to which humanity is supposed to be heir.

Each mouthful of the macerated wheat, which is his chief article of diet, requires at least eight hundred bites to render a part of it fit to be swallowed, according to Mr. Fletcher's rule. It was while searching, not for a fountain of youth, but a Bethesda, as physicians had confessed their inability to heal him, that Mr. Fletcher became convinced that malnutrition is the cause of most diseases. In studying from this starting point, he reached the conclusion that the malassimilation which causes this must arise from some voluntary violation of nature's laws, since subconscious action is of necessity in accord with them.

As the action of the stomach and lower digestive tract is involuntary, he reasoned that the difficulty must be in the mouth, where the action is voluntary, and he began at once to study its office in connection with digestion. He soon discovered, among other untabulated physiological facts, that after he had formed the habit of so thoroughly insalivating his food, both liquids and solids, that it became tasteless, he allowed it without voluntary effort, and also that he experienced a curious inability to swallow food not so thoroughly masticated; finding that the throat through no act of his will closed against that which had not been reduced to the consistency of cream. While he was pursuing these investigations, Mr. Fletcher's attention was called to Mr. Gladstone's assertion that each mouthful of food should be bitten thirty-two times. He made a careful study of this and found that while some food is reduced to a creamy mass, which, so to put it, swallows itself, with less than half the number of bites set down by Mr. Gladstone, other kinds of food require hundreds of bites.

More than this, he found that the same kind of food at one time would require much more chewing than at another, showing that the saliva is not only an important factor in reducing food to the state when it passes the guarding fauces without challenge, but that its power as a solvent is variable.

While making these experiments Mr. Fletcher found that a young garden onion required 722 bites before it disappeared by involuntary swallowing, but that when this was accomplished it left no odor.

Simply put, Mr. Fletcher's contention is that the office of the teeth is so to reduce food that each particle can be acted upon by the saliva, which is freed by the action of the mouth for this purpose. When this

is perfectly accomplished the muscular folds or convolutions of the throat and the back part of the mouth, which includes the palate, and which in repose form a perfect food filter, will act automatically and empty the mouth by involuntary swallowing, while the fibrous, insoluble remainder will, also by an involuntary action, be returned from the back to the front of the mouth, and should be removed as are cherry pits, the seeds and skins of grapes and other indigestible substances. When this is done, it is surprising to see what a bulk of tough fibre, hulls of corn, skins of fruit and other unabsorbable matter, in which there is no nourishment, most people are in the habit of sending to the digestive tract, which must be irritated and deranged, to say nothing of more subtle and serious bad effects.

Dr. van Someren, a practicing physician in Venice, who is an enthusiastic convert to Mr. Fletcher's method of eating, points out that it is something that must be acquired, and that it can only be accomplished by patient, thoughtful effort, as the habits of a lifetime must be changed. He states that the shortest time in which the reflex in deglutition has been known to be established is four weeks, and that it was done in that length of time only by concentrating the attention on keeping the food in the mouth until complete alkaline reduction had taken place, as indicated by its becoming tasteless.

By practicing this thorough insalivating of his food, Dr. van Someren says that he has been cured of inherited gout and of eczema, frequent boils and severe headaches when all remedies known to the medical profession had failed to give him relief. From his experience and the experiments he has made, he has become convinced that dyspepsia would cease to exist if patients would bite their food until its original taste disappeared and it was carried into the stomach by involuntary swallowing. In fact, he declares that most diseases would disappear if this method of eating was a universal habit.—N. Y. Sun.

## Laundering Lace Curtains.

Years ago before lace curtains were sent to the laundry to have them cleaned, they lasted much longer than they do now. This is due to the strong chemicals used by professional cleaners, and to the rough handling they are apt to receive. When the curtains are taken down, remove the hooks or other fastenings, pick out any tacking threads, and shake them well to rid them of dust that has accumulated. Look closely to find every tiny tear or break, and darn them before the curtains are put in the water, for these breaks always become much larger if left until after the washing is done. Pour a quart of boiling water over half a cupful of good dusting powder and stir until it is dissolved, then pour it into a tub half full of hot water. Put the curtains in it and stir and work them about for ten minutes, then leave them to soak overnight. This loosens the dirt and cleanses them without hard rubbing which would break the threads. In the morning, rub them between the hands, fold them smoothly and pass through the wringer. Put them in a boiler with a suds prepared as before and let them boil briskly ten minutes. When they are taken from this they should be rinsed through two waters, adding a little bluing to the second if a clear white is desired. Dip in strained coffee if you wish to make them extra white, then dip them in a weak tannin solution.

If you have an old-fashioned quilting frame, it is a simple matter to dry the curtains, for several pairs may be fastened in it at one time and dried quickly. If one is careful to place every scallop straight and stretch them just enough to keep them from wrinkling, they will not need ironing, and will be as smooth and fresh looking as new curtains. Or you can spread clean sheets over the carpet of a room that is not in use, and after stretching them as smooth as possible, pin or tack them in place. Spread the curtains on these, stretching every scallop just right, and pin them in place.

E. J. C.

## Right and Left-Handedness.

The question of right and left-handedness is so frequently brought up that any investigations or light on the subject cannot fail to be of general interest. It has been observed that infants who crawl about on all fours make much more use of the right than the left, unless they are left-handed. A scientist accounts for this by declaring that right-handedness is caused by the location of the organs of the body. The heart being on the left side causes very much greater weight than on the right. During early life the heart and arteries filled with blood make the increased weight of that side an item of some importance. The centre of gravity is, therefore, thrown more to the left side. This being the case, the right arm is much more free than the left. There may be also a provision of nature in the use of the right hand more than the left. Throwing a ball, striking with a hammer or other violent exercise might have a depressing or injurious effect upon the heart if done with the left hand. This theory of balance and weight is by far the most rational one that has been suggested, and its further development will be watched with great interest.—Health Culture.

## The Prevention of Pneumonia.

Because of its extensive prevalence and high rate of mortality, pneumonia has been aptly called the yellow fever of the North; and indeed it was, in its destructiveness to human life, a keen rival of yellow fever in the days before the American army doctors in Cuba robbed yellow fever of its power for evil.

Most persons have an impression that pneumonia is of common occurrence, but they do not realize that during the winter and spring months, when it is most prevalent, it is in some years the cause of more deaths than any other single disease. It is due not only to its prevalence, but also to its great mortality, for of all whom the disease attacks nearly one-half die.

This fact speaks ill for the methods of treatment employed, and emphasizes the need of prevention. The fact that pneumonia prevails chiefly in the winter and early spring has given rise to the popular belief that it is caused by catching cold, and this in a restricted sense is correct.

Pneumonia is a germ disease, due to the poison elaborated by a special micro-organism; but a knowledge of this fact helps little in avoiding the disease, for the reason that the germ of the disease is almost always present in the body—especially in the mouth, throat and nose. The question, then, is one, not of avoiding the germ, but of preventing its growth.

Normally the tissues do not offer a suitable soil for its development, and it is only when they have been changed in some way that rapid growth can take place. This change may be effected in a number of

ways—by catching cold, by the loss of sleep, by living and especially sleeping in badly ventilated rooms, by the abuse of alcoholic drinks, by habitual overeating, by worry, in fact, by any of the agents, physical or mental, which depress the vital powers.

The prevention of pneumonia resolves itself simply into the avoidance of all those depressing influences which render the system vulnerable to the attack of the pneumonia germ. In other words, it consists in living according to the laws of a rational hygiene—pure air and deep breathing; plenty of water internally and externally; plain food in moderate quantity; abstinence from alcohol; plenty of sleep; bedroom windows open all night, and finally, the cultivation of a poised and untrifling spirit.—Youth's Companion.

## Value of a Direct Gaze.

The effect of a full, straightforward gaze on the person to whom one is speaking is not as a rule sufficiently considered. And yet there is nothing in personal intercourse that carries more weight than a direct gaze. It is the medium for sympathy, the mental telegraph that brings speaker and hearer in touch with each other. Every one who has experienced the *genre* of talking to a person whose wandering glances betray their train of thought, but one often fails to analyze the subtle attraction of an attentive eye that stimulates and inspires one all unconsciously while one converses.

Children should be taught early in life to look fearlessly and confidently into the eyes of any one who addresses them; the habit will be of good service to them in after years. The prevailing idea that shifty eyes betoken duplicity, however, while a steadfast regard shows an honest disposition, is not a correct one. Shyness is responsible in many cases for an averted glance, while the bold, bright eyes of many a young vagabond often serve only as an aid to deception and fraud, so that it is hardly fair to condemn a person who is unable and shy of looking into the eyes of another. It is a trait that should be considered more of a misfortune than an evidence of untrustworthiness. People who are called magnetic almost always, it may be noticed, have a pronounced visual power. The interest that they feel, or profess to feel, in others, is intensified by a certain concentration in their regard, which seems to include alone the person addressed. It is flattering and attractive and invariably affects the other person favorably.—New York Tribune.

## Fatality of Whooping Cough.

Eliza H. Root calls attention to the fact that this disease is little dreaded by the medical profession and that it is by no means the simple affair that many seem to suppose.

From the United States census of 1900 we find that 683 died in New York from whooping cough and 549 from scarlet fever. In Chicago 141 died from whooping cough and 375 from scarlet fever; Philadelphia, 179 from whooping cough, 182 from scarlet fever, and so on in the different cities. Death from whooping cough occurs most frequently from pneumonia as a complication that induces heart failure, or a bronchitis may occur that ends in suffocation. Asphyxia or marasmus due to the continued ejecting of the food or loss of appetite may cause death.

Even when death does not occur, severe disturbance of the nervous system may remain, as weakness of the intellect and memory, imbecility. Visual defects, strabismus, blindness and deafness, partial or complete, and even deaf-mutism may remain. Whooping cough, it is evident, should be under the control of health authorities, subject to quarantine and other preventive measures as much as scarlet fever.—Woman's Medical Journal.

## Domestic Hints.

## WILD DUCK SOUP.

If ducks are sedgy or fatty parboil each with a carrot inside its body to take out the carrot and throw it away. You will find that the unpleasant flavor has left the ducks and has been absorbed by the carrot. Cut up the ducks, season each piece with salt and pepper and lay them in a soup pot. For a large soup you should add to it the color scheme of the room. Have the centre of the spread plain, a pound of butter divided in four parts and each part rolled in flour. Pour in water enough to make a rich soup and let it boil slowly till all the flesh has left the bones; skim it well. Thicken it with butter or cream, and serve with a mashed. A glass of Madeira or sherry, or the juice of a lemon or orange will be found an improvement. In taking up the soup be careful to leave the bits of bone and meat in the bottom of the pot.—What to Eat.

## MINCED MEAT.

Chop four pounds of lean beef very fine. Mix with six soda crackers, rolled fine. Beat three eggs, 1 tablespoonful of salt, one tablespoonful of pepper, one-half of a small nutmeg, grated, four tablespoonfuls of milk or cream, and butter the size of an egg, melted. Mix all thoroughly with your hands, and make into a ball. Bake in a dripping pan 1½ hours. Place on top of the loaf before baking thin slices of salt pork. This is a good hot and most excellent served cold and sliced thin for tea or luncheon.

## ROAST TURKEY.

Choose turkeys with white flesh and fat. Those with long hairs should be avoided, also those whose backs and legs have a slight purple tinge. The birds when young have smooth, black legs, with (in the cock) short spurs. The feet of young turkeys will be supple. The turkey should be hung as long as possible without acquiring any taint. On a wet day it will keep quite a fortnight. Draw it carefully. Fill the breast with salt, omitting the suet, and truss it into a good shape. It will take from 1½ to two hours to roast; and should be basted with butter or good dripping. It is well to cover the turkey with a cloth and baste well. It should be removed half an hour before it is finished. It may be served with fried baked sausages placed round it. To make the gravy, cut one pound of gravy beef into small pieces, simmer it with the giblets in three pints of water, with one onion sliced, for three hours. Thicken it with two ounces of flour, and pour a little round the turkey. The gravy from the turkey should be mixed with it; the remainder should be served in a sauceboat. A turkey may be stuffed with chestnut foremeat or truffles. It is most excellent stuffed with mushrooms and served with a mushroom sauce.

## FIG ROLL.

Three eggs, one cupful each of sugar and flour, one teaspoonful of cream of tartar and one-half teaspoonful of soda; bake in a good-sized, shallow pan. Beat the white of one egg with one-half cupful of sugar to a stiff frothing, chop half a dozen large figs, a dozen raisins and a little citron, stir into the frosting, spread on the cake and roll up.

## BUTTER TAPPY.

The ingredients are two cups of sugar, half a cup of water, two teaspoonfuls of vinegar and butter the size of an egg.

## ROMANOFF PUDDING.

Make a chestnut cream, the same as for ice-cream, having the chestnut cooked with sugar. After this is frozen incorporate half the same quantity of whipped cream. Have a two-quart pudding mold packed in salted ice, coat the interior with uncooked orange ice-cream and fill the centre with separate layers: first the chestnut ice-cream, then lady fingers, then fruit and walnuts well drained from their juice and cut lengthwise in four; have the top layer of

the ice-cream cover the mould. Freeze one hour and a half, and turn it out on a napkin. Serve a separate sauce of vanilla ice-cream flavored with kirsch, beating it well with whipped cream.

## Hints to Housekeepers.

The peculiar lifeless taste of water which has been boiled for drinking purposes, can be destroyed by heating it with an egg beater before using.

"You look very smart," said a neighbor who had dropped into a friend's house one evening for an after-dinner call. "Do you expect company?" The mistress of the house and her two daughters both wore light dress-toilets and the men were in evening dress. "It's all Robert's doing," laughed the hostess. "We are going to town to-morrow. When he came home from Oxford, he came over to dinner in regulation evening clothes. 'Going out, Bob?' asked his sister. 'No,' he answered. 'Why do you ask?' 'Because you are so dressed up,' said the other girl. 'I hope,' said Robert, 'that is in it to make me respect to my mother and sisters as I would wish to see any other woman.' The girl looked conscious. One was in a shirt waist and short skirt, and the other was in a rather shabby tea gown. 'It doesn't signify,' as we are all alone here," said he to me a few moments before when I suggested a change. I did not say anything, but the next evening I took a little pains with my toilette, and was pleased to see that both of my daughters had donned pretty house gowns. The other boys scoffed at first, but the younger, who never liked to be out of date, boldly followed his brother's lead, and Jim after a while gave in. 'Of course I could not be the only one,' he explained. And do you know," continued the mother, "that it has made a great difference in other things. The family are more conversational, entertaining—they have better manners, and are more considerate; and as for me, I feel it behooves me to take more pains with the dinner when the family seems to consider it a function. After all, there is a great moral power in clothes," she concluded.

That toilet soap is not good as a shampoo for the hair is the verdict of a hair specialist. "Don't you know," he says, "that soap was first used as a hair bleach? Soap—any kind and the best kind—possesses bleaching qualities still, along with its cleansing properties, and unless you want your locks to fade and lose their lustre, in other words, you must use a hair soap in this capacity. Of course, tar soaps and the other soap that are prepared especially for shampoo purposes, are quite a different matter."

It is a good idea to put a little shot in the bottom of tall vases. They are not so liable to be knocked over by careless hands.

Spin sugar is greatly in favor. Nothing could be prettier than a bouquet in form of white spun sugar served in a tiny basket of green spun sugar. Many of the spun sugar ice cups come in the form of flowers, some are rough straw hats, some are bird nests, and the triumph of art is a white wicker wheelbarrow filled with white violets, all the sugar. At one luncheon the cake was an oblong loaficed with chocolate. Across the top extended a long spray of lilies of the valley in white icing with pale green and white leaves. The ice-cream was in shape of lilies of the valley and green leaves. It was brought in on a round Sheffield tray. Each individual lay on a lace-paper mat around the edge of the tray. In the centre was a cluster of the real flowers and ferns. This was placed before the hostess, who served the lilies on cut-glass saucers. A pretty centerpiece noted at a florist's the other day was a large basket with a handle and two little wheels. One of the lids was raised halfway and fastened to the handle by a large bow of lavender ribbon. From the basket peeped a medley of spring flowers, jonquils, crocuses, narcissi, giving the appearance of a basketful of the flowers.—What to Eat.

This salad is vouched for as being exceedingly good. Chop off the head macaroni in the small end and mix it with chopped white cabbage. The macaroni should not have been dressed with cheese or tomato sauce. Toss in a mayonnaise and serve on lettuce leaves.

A delicious hot dessert to be served in ramekins is made of one cupful of bananas, chopped very fine, two eggs, cream, sugar, vanilla and five eggs. Stir the fruit and cream together carefully without destroying the lightness of the mixture. Bake in a quick oven until they are light and delicately browned. Serve with sugar and cream as soon as they come from the oven. A soufflé will fill it if it is allowed to stand until it is cold.

Potatoes, when cooked in their skins, should have a small piece cut from one end, in order to allow the steam to escape in cooking.

When a boy's room is not furnished with a couch, the boy is apt to lie on the bed to read, and in the morning he will find his shoes or slippers soiled with the white spread before lying down being extremely slender. Rather than indulge in vain remonstrances, banish the white spread altogether, and substitute denim, blue, if it can be made to fit into the color scheme of the room. Have the centre of the spread plain, a border twelve to eighteen inches deep of figured denim, fleur-de-lis, or something similar. The denim takes on a better color as repeated washings dull its first brightness. It does not easily wrinkle and the comfort of the boy is insured.

## Fashion Notes.

"Some charming lightweight and transparent gowns are being made for the fortunate ones who are able to turn their backs on the New York February and March, and spend the rest of the bleak season in Southern resorts. The trimmings, which were admired last year, are promising to be even more popular this year, are well suited for the south. Nothing could be prettier for informal dancing gowns, and the trimming most suitable for them is Valenciennes lace, which is being used in a new and original way of white net, with a large, gaudy design of lively blue laurel flowers and sprays. The skirt was full and was corded and shirred halfway between the belt and the knees. Shirrings also appeared directly above the full skirt, which formed the waist. The bodice was inset with Valenciennes motifs, and flung around the foot with several lace ruchings. The bodice was full and bloused over so little over the crush grid of dark blue velvet, from which long velvet ribbon ends fell in the back. Around the top of the low bodice, straight folds were laid flatly, these extending over the top of the sleeves to make the shoulder long. A narrow lace ruching headed the folds and softened the contact of the net against the skin. Below the folds fell a pointed flounce of wide Valenciennes lace, so arranged that the front lay in a sort of jabot. The sleeves were elbow puffs with a fall of the wide lace.

A corn yellow net, made over yellow taffeta, had great yellow roses in its design, with sprays of green and brown, warmed with light red. It was trimmed with a narrow band of them running down the front and sides of the fitted skirt to within twelve inches of the hem. The ends of the bands were rose-like medallions of lace edged with tiny ruches of yellow chiffon. A second medallion, finished in the same way, was applied further up each lace band. The bodice has a shaped berth, trimmed with lace, put on almost without filling, and with inset medallions of lace edged with chiffon ruching. There was a large medallion in the front and another on either side. Elbow sleeves of lace-edged ruffles; sash of black velvet ribbon.

For a little maid's dainty gown, to be worn at children's parties and for other state occasions, a white net covered with bunches of pink blossoms was chosen. It was made with a full, gathered skirt, tucked above the wide hem, and trimmed between the groups of tuckings with inch-wide bands of Valenciennes insertion. The low-necked bodice had a wide, shaped berth ruffle, which fell to the elbows, quite covering the pointed sleeves. This was trimmed with three rows of insertion and an edge of lace. A plait of satin ribbon sash and satin shoulder knots completed a charming little frock.

Very few of us go away in the winter, however, and not all of us have need of these airy dresses at seasons of the year. It is in the winter to be thankful for that so many pretty winter gowns are within reach of ordinary purses. This season's velvetones have proven as durable and

as satisfactory in all ways as the manufacturers promised, and it is to be hoped that fashion will allow them another season's vogue. On one of the shopping streets was seen such a pretty gown of gray velvet. It quite brightened a dark, threatening day. The skirt was plaited in broad side plaits in the back, and the plaits were continued in the form of a deep flounce at the sides and in the front. The short jacket was collarless and opened over a vest of pale blue peau de sole, with a high stock of the same material. With the gown was worn a tricorn hat of moire, the exact shade of the velvet, trimmed with large blue coque's plumes.

"Everything is to be tucked, we are informed; but the tucks are by no means to be straight around or even up-and-down variety. Tucks in all sorts of circular and crescent-shaped designs are pressed. Soft silks and pongees play themselves to this sort of needlework manipulation. Of course, it is all hand-done."

A simple but pretty gown of warm gray cashmere has the full, long skirt bordered with a four-inch band of velvet of the same shade, edged on either side with narrow bands of mink. The waist is of shirred crepe de chine, over which is laid a deep pelerine yoke of the velvet, edged with fur. This yoke is round and slightly pointed in the very front. Long, pointed bands, fur bordered, are laid over the shoulder seams and fall to the elbow over full sleeves of the crepe de chine. The sleeves are gathered into high cuffs of white lace, and there is a collar and the ends of the lace.

This model is seen a great deal lately, modified in various ways. There is a craze for gowns where the waist is a tiny bolero, pelerine, or sailor collar of the skirt material over a blouse of thin material or lace. It is a pretty, graceful fashion and furnishes a hint for making over gowns. A gown of champagne pink cloth of a very soft and pliable quality is made with a box-plaited skirt and is trimmed with a ribbon design of silk passementerie of the same color. The blouse is white lace, and over it is worn a short bolero of the cloth, quite covered with the passementerie. The bolero meets at the throat and opens widely below, and has the merest scraps of sleeves. The lace sleeves are very full, and across the fullest part is applied a waved piece of the cloth.

Comparing these late winter gowns with the few spring models on view, one sees little change in the general outline, or silhouette, as an artist would call it. The same long, drooping shoulders, the slender waist, sloping without abruptness into the line of the hips, the same flare of the skirt about the feet. Sleeves are more trimmed, especially at the top. There they are tight fitting, and the trimming is in the form of applications and lace insets. Only they must be trimmed; that seems to be the rule. Usually the trimming is but a continuation of the waist decoration, and must always correspond to it. There are plenty of new hats to be seen. Most of them are turban-shaped, but that is no sign that the turban will rule after the first spring days. We need small hats at the beginning of a season. Some of the new ones are stiff and formal to begin with, round-box shapes, with a stiff frill of ribbon around the brim, sometimes furnished with a small conventional wreath of roses in the centre of the frill. One of these formal turbans was of brown chiffon velvet in the crown, and was trimmed with shaded-brown, plaited straw, was simply trimmed with a half-wreath of cream roses, shading to light orange, with a brown girdle thrust through them in the front. The brim flared sharply, so that the dark brown was much in evidence, and the trimming showed only at the back and sides.

A light mode brown satin straw turban to sit well over the face has a rolling, brim wider in the back than in the front and flattened against the crown in the back. A fold of brown chiffon velvet fills the space between the brim and crown, and a fold of velvet helps to hold the flatness in the back. From this fold two beautiful skyblue wings are brought forward over the crown on either side of the hat.

A fabric which appeared early last spring only to disappear after a brief popularity was a chiffon voile in shepherd's checks, of blue, green, mauve, brown and pink combined with white. It is, of course, understood that a shepherd's plaid, or check, as it is called, can never have but two colors. This dainty fabric is again seen, and although a shepherd's plaid is not exactly an elegant design, the handsome frock have been made of chiffon voile. It is rather expensive for a wash material—\$1.95 a yard—but it is forty-six inches wide, and has too much body to warrant much drapery.

The cotton and silk mixtures continue to come in. Among them flecked tissue de soie silk gauzes, satin lisse and polonaise cotton are plain in name, but are much more beautiful than they seem. With two silk slips, one white and the other pink, mauve and blue, whatever is most becoming, and several thin frocks, a girl may possess an ample wardrobe. Several new taffetas for linings are on the market. One of these costs only sixty-five cents for a yard, and is said to be wear remarkably well. A better-looking silk comes at \$1 for the thirty-six-inch width, and fifty-five cents for a narrower piece. These are not recommended, or, at least, they have not been tested for hard wear, but for evening gowns they serve as well as more expensive silks.—New York Evening Post.

## The World Beautiful.

Lillian Whiting, in Boston Budget.

"Knowing Thou needest this form as I Thy Knowing Thou shapest this clay with a vision and purpose divine, So would I answer each touch of Thy hand in its living creation That, in my conscious life Thy beauty and power may shine."

—Christopher P. Cranch.

"Let me not seek out of Thee what I can only find in Thee, peace and rest and joy and bliss, which abide only in Thy abiding joy. Lift up my soul above the weary round of harassing thoughts to Thy eternal Presence. Lift up my soul to the pure, bright, serene, radiant atmosphere of Thy Presence, that there I may breathe freely, there repose in Thy love, there be at rest from myself and from all things that weary me; there return, arrayed with Thy peace, to do and bear what shall please Thee. . . . For nothing is grievous or burdensome to Him who loves. Demands are not grievous because love makes them light; they are not grievous because love gives strength to bear them. Wings are no weight to the bird, which they lift up in the air until it is lost in the sky above us and we see it no more, and have no weight to the soul which, through His spirit, He appears to himself; nay, rather the soul through them, the more soars aloft and loses itself in the love of God. This is the power which lifts us above all hindrances, carries us over all temptations, impels our listlessness, this almighty power of the grace of God."—Dr. F. F. F. F.

To draw any dividing line between the spiritual and the so-called practical in daily life, is to impoverish and undermine the entire fabric of living. Religion is not a decorative attachment to be assumed or laid aside at will; to be relegated to leisure and to Lenten meditations; it is not a mere adornment to be carefully protected from the stress and storm of affairs; it is in the heart of the struggle; it is in the midst of the most trying circumstances that one needs that peace and rest, that "joy and bliss," which, as Dr. F. F. F. F. says, "Abide only in Thy abiding joy."

One learns a great lesson, at times, by some exceptional and unusual season of hardship and sacrifice. "Often we gather over treasures and find



## Poetry.

## FROM AN OLD SWEETHEART.

Do you remember years ago,  
A message sent, an answer, No?  
And how two lives went each their way  
All for a thought that went astray.  
The message from a lover true  
It never reached the eyes of blue.  
The answer came from another heart,  
Who jealous was of Cupid's art.

Time went his way and Love seemed lost,  
Until today none knew the cost.  
But bid among some secrets rare,  
The blue eyes found this message there:  
"I love you, dear, be now my bride,  
Take time and think ere you decide,  
No truer heart can beat for you,  
Oh, maiden fair with eyes of blue."

And now once more a message goes  
Today across the wintry snows:  
"I love you, dear, I'll be your bride;  
Time I have taken to decide.  
Come, for some hearts are ever true,  
The maiden waits with eyes of blue."  
So hearts that love can never forget,  
And time and fate do wonders yet.

LOUISE LEWIN MATTHEWS.

St. Valentine's Day, 1904.

## ISABELLA.

O queenly heart! how little didst thou know  
What vast results would from thy kindness flow!  
When fearless steering for an unknown shore,  
Columbus sailed the mighty ocean o'er,  
And linked thy name with his forever more.  
W. W. CALDWELL.

## HOME FROM SCHOOL.

When sweet Libbie's home from school  
There are voices in the hall  
Mixed with bubbling happy laughter  
And the air seems all to call  
With the voices of wild songsters,  
And the perfumed days and cool  
Are like beads of pearl and amber,  
When our Libbie's home from school.

There's a frou-frou too of garments  
Over tasselled floors;  
There are rumples bits of music,  
There's an opening of doors,  
Till the breath of happy blossoms  
Comes on breezes sweet and cool,  
And their sweetness stirs your heart-strings  
When our Libbie's home from school.

Er't day is like a jewel,  
Each far fairer than the last,  
Slipping past your eager fingers!  
Slipping faster and more fast!  
How we love to clasp and hold them,  
Days enchanted sweet and cool,  
When our hearts are full of music,  
When our Libbie's home from school.

Days aglint with gray-eyed laughter  
Days of red lips, half a smile,  
Roses cheeks wherein we dimples  
Half are hid, half peeping out;  
Life which erstwhile lay as quiet  
As a shaded wayside pool,  
Wakes into a laughing torrent,  
When our sweet Libbie's home from school.

Child, whose every day is May time!  
Would you Time might stand still!  
Would these days might last forever!  
Orchard, meadow, vine, hill,  
Might retain the splendid beauty,  
Fountains sing the self-same way,  
Would for our sake you might ever  
Be, dear, as you are today!

—J. M. Lewis, in Houston Post.

## THREE WORDS.

There are three lessons I would write.  
Three words with a burning pen,  
In tracings of eternal light  
Upon the hearts of men.

Have hope. Though clouds environ round,  
And gladness hides her face in scorn,  
Put off the shadow from thy brow,  
No night but hath its morn.

Have faith. Where'er thy bark is driven,  
The calm'st of port, the tempest's mirth,  
Know this, God rules the host of Heaven,  
The inhabitants of earth.

Have love. Not love alone for one;  
But man as man thy brother call,  
And scatter, like the circling sun,  
Thy charities on all.

—Schiller.

## NOW FLAKES.

Whenever a snowflake leaves the sky,  
It turns and says "Goodbye!  
Goodbye, clouds, so cool and gray!"  
Then lightly travels on its way.

And when a snowflake finds a tree,  
"Good-day!" it says, "Good-day to thee!  
Thou art so bare and lonely, dear,  
I'll rest and call my comrades here."

But when a snowflake, brave and meek,  
Lights on a rosy maiden's cheek,  
It starts—how warm and soft the day!  
'Tis summer!—and it melts away.

—Mary Mapes Dodge.

## ADVICE.

When you fall off worry  
But you won't let go,  
When you're kind of bothered  
Case you can't get rich,  
An' yo' neighbor p'pash  
Past his jest deserts,  
An' de sneer of comers'  
Stings yo' heart an' ha'ts,  
Dere's pet yo' worries,  
Lay 'em on de shelf,  
Tek a little trouble,  
Brothah, wid yo' self.

Et a frien' comes mo'nin'  
'Bout his awful case,  
You know you don't jine him  
Wid a gloomy face,  
But you wassle wid him,  
Try to take him in,  
Dough hit cracks yo' techuans,  
Lawl you smile lak sin,  
Aln' you good ez he?  
Don't you pine de id?  
Tek a little trouble,  
Brothah, wid yo' self.

Et de chillun pestas,  
An' de baby's bad,  
An' yo' wife gets nervous,  
An' yo' gittin' mad,  
Des you grab yo' bootstraps,  
Hol' yo' body down,  
Stay a-linkin' an' wadd's,  
Chas away de frown,  
Knock de halo off worry,  
Twey day ain't none lef—  
Tek a little trouble,  
Brothah, wid yo' self.

—Paul Laurence Dunbar.

## BARNYARD WISDOM.

Said the rooster to the barnyard  
To the rooster on the vane;  
"I'm a mighty knowing fellow  
At predicting when 't will rain.

"For I cast my eye upon you  
And observe which way it blows,  
Then I rouse the farmer's family  
With my most sagacious crows."  
So, to gain a reputation,  
And to quaff of fortune's cup  
You will find the plan a good one—  
Have a fowl that's higher up. —Life.

## Miscellaneous.

## When Man Proposes.

"Do I look perfectly calm?" inquired Polly, climbing into the wrong side of the sleigh and trying to tuck the laprobe around the dashboard. "Because," she went on, beginning to take off her gloves, and then, as she recollected herself, nervously drawing them on again, "though you might not suspect it, I'm a little—excited. I've just finished getting proposed to."

I gave the check rein a violent jerk that must have insulted a horse like Marc Antony. "I wouldn't even ask who—?" I began. "Oh, you needn't," said Polly. "It was only Bobby Paddington."

I started. The check rein slipped from my fingers and I let the whip fall with a thud into the snow. "Why, what is the matter?" asked Polly. "It isn't polite to be surprised when a girl gets proposed to. It looks as if you had thought she couldn't."

"Oh, it isn't that," said I. "Anybody could get proposed to by Bobby Paddington—and in leap year." "Poo!" said Polly, as I stepped into the sleigh and tucked the robe around her. "Leap year has nothing to do with it—nor Bobby Paddington, either—if a girl has really made up her mind. Leap year merely gives her a privilege which a woman, as a rule, never exercises. It's like the kiss under the mistletoe, entirely a joke. You wouldn't dare kiss any girl under the mistletoe whom you wouldn't dare kiss anywhere else. And no girl would think of asking a man to marry her on leap year, or at any other time, that is, in a girl with a particle of common sense or delicacy."

"Or womanliness," I declared. "Or knowledge of men," said Polly. "Or breeding." "Or experience."

"I wonder," said I, "if any woman ever did use that leap-year privilege." "Never," said Polly, "since she has had the every year privilege of making a man propose to her. It would have been so very unnecessary. Any woman who uses a little tact and sets out to get a proposal. The difference between proposing herself and making a man propose to her is the difference between using a whip and spur. You don't have to whip a horse—that is, a horse worth having—do you? But you do often have to spur him when you come to a jump. A man is like a horse; he hates a whip, but he minds a spur."

"Oh, I see," said I, chuckling to Marc Antony until the sleigh sped over the frozen road; "a proposal is like a hedge. A fellow wants to get over it, but he's afraid of what is on the other side. He may land in a tangle—or he may get a cold water dousing."

"Or he fancies there might be a ditch somewhere." "Exactly," said Polly, "and that is why it needs a little mental suggestion from the girl to spur him on. If she attempts to drive him with a whip he balks. But mental suggestion—"

"That isn't anything like—hypnotism—is it, Polly?" "Well—a little," acknowledged Polly. "It's making somebody think something that isn't so." "Making him think that a proposal isn't a hedge at all, but just a bower of roses that he can slip over without any discomfort, and that the water on the other side couldn't possibly be cold, but just warm tears of affectionate sympathy, and that there aren't any ditches in which to be entombed alive, or any traps in which to be stranded, and then can make him believe that you don't care whether he takes the leap or not—"

"He will go pell-mell on to his doom!" I finished tragically. "Like Bobby Paddington," Polly giggled. "Oh, Bobby Paddington!" I remarked with disgust. "He is just like a fellow who takes a hedge, if it was brick wall—and always lands on their feet. There is a divine Providence that protects Bobby."

"I'm very sure you're very uncomplimentary," said Polly. "And, besides, Bobby Paddington landed right in the ice-cold water this time. I refused him—as hard as I could."

I looked down at the demure little bundle of fur beside me, with one curl and a nose sticking out of the big collar. "Did you do it for my sake, Polly?" I asked, softly. "No," said Polly, "for Bobby's. He needed the lesson. His conceit was something atrocious. Besides, I had made a sort of wager with Kitty Carter." Polly stopped.

"Well," I suggested. "Oh, well—that I could—that he should—I mean—Oh, don't you understand Mr. Heavyfeather—by twelve o'clock. I finished refusing him at five minutes of, while you were waiting with—"

"How do you know with whom I was waiting?" "Oh, I had only to keep one eye and an ear on Bobby—and not my heart," said Polly sweetly. I melted beneath Polly's smile, as the snow beneath the sun.

"Polly," said I, "tell me how you managed the mental suggestion in Bobby's case—how you manage anybody."

"But you must have begun somehow," I insisted. "With Bobby? Oh, yes, I began by telling him that the jam was in the closet, but that the door was locked."

"I don't understand," said I. "I told him," said Polly, "that I never intended to marry, never!" I jerked the reins so suddenly that Marc Antony threatened to stand up on his hind legs. "What did you tell him that for?" I exclaimed.

"Bobby would hate to think anybody who was in the matrimonial market had entangled him," explained Polly. "He likes to think he is pursuing somebody who doesn't want him. That's the funny thing about most men. They always want the girl who they think doesn't want them, and thereby lay the foundation for the divorce court proceedings right there in the parlor where the proposal is going on. It is nearly always safe to begin making a man propose to you, by telling him you are unobtainable. It is like telling a small boy that his jelly is sticky in the pantry, but that it's locked up. He immediately begins to look for the pantry key."

"Polly," said I, gazing down upon that small bundle of fur with real awe in my eyes, "are you sure you aren't a reincarnation of Plato—Socrates—or somebody? For an unreasonable little person, you can reason better—"

"Oh, it didn't come naturally," laughed Polly. "It's the result of—well, you might say long experience."

I winced. I was searching my memory; and somewhere at some time it slowly occurred to me that Polly had positively vowed to me confidentially that she never intended to marry.

"Oh, I see," I remarked, as the light dawned on me, "you always say that, just as you say, 'I'm a mighty knowing fellow'—"

"I don't remember. Let me see—oh, yes, I believe I pointed out to him why I wouldn't marry, but what a perfectly charming idea somebody was missing; and how entirely ideal marriage between two sympathetic souls could be made, and how awful it would be if a man should marry the wrong girl; and—"

I leaned over and looked Polly squarely in the face.

"Did you say all those things, Polly Lee?" I demanded.

"Look out!" cried Polly. "That's the second time you've almost driven into a snowdrift."

"Polly Lee," I repeated, "did you say all those things?"

"Why, of course not, Silly!" said Polly, turning pink. "I only suggested them. My words were quite—well, he never would remember the words anyhow, so they don't count."

"Well, what does count, anyway?" I retorted, slipping Marc Antony spitefully. "The looks," said Polly, "and the tone and the attitude."

I gave Marc Antony the first lash he ever had. "What attitude, Miss Lee?" I asked in a cold, hard voice. "The mental attitude," answered Polly without the quiver of an eyelash, "and the mental atmosphere. Oh, it's something you can't explain, but most girls understand it. It's just like feminine logic. There isn't any explanation and you can't prove it, but it's true just the same."

"There is," said I, "just about five dollars difference between feminine logic and masculine logic."

"I don't understand," said Polly. "I wouldn't say I, 'that there is five dollars difference between Bobby Paddington's logic and your logic.'"

"Please explain," pouted Polly. "You're always so intricate!" "For instance," I went on, "when Bobby Paddington told me five dollars this morning that he would call on me on Saturday, you to the point of proposing within twenty-four hours—"

"Mr. Heavyfeather!" exclaimed Polly, sitting up perfectly straight. "You don't—mean to say—Bobby Paddington knew I was engaged to—"

"Oh, yes; I told him all about that only this morning. I replied nonchalantly. Polly was looking straight ahead of her with flaming cheeks and snapping eyes. And, as I remarked to you, I went on, slipping my arm around the back of the sleigh and glancing sidewise at Polly. Bobby Paddington would take any sort of a hedge, even if he knew it was a brick wall."

Polly didn't even notice my arm. As she leaned back into the depths of it and the sleigh, with a long breath, there were tears of mortification in her eyes. "Then," she said, looking pathetically up at me, "he was only flirting—with me—all the time!"

"Polly, dear," said I, bending over and kissing the top of her head, "what were you doing?" "Helen Rowland, in Washington Post."

Through the night they lay there freezing. They became as hard as rocks; in the morning Willie Watkins' Chained to the door of the box; Johnny had not risen early; Johnny was a sleepy head; Willie Watkins took the snowballs while their maker lay in bed.

When, at last, the slothful Johnny sauntered outward through the yard To prepare to battle Willie, He was hit by something hard! More than fourteen snowballs struck him ere he howling got away. Conscientiously believing It was his unlucky day.

Thanks to thee, O lazy Johnny, For the lesson thou hast taught! Oft we labor hard preparing And our efforts come to naught—Oft we spend long years in getting Ready to do things which we should, Just to fall through being absent When it's time to be on hand.

—Chicago Record-Herald.

**Take Your Choice.**  
A writer in Lippincott's tells of a young teacher who had taken special pains to impart a knowledge of United States history, who could but feel that much good seed sown had fallen on stony ground when at the final examination the question, "What character do you like best, and why?" brought forth the following astonishing replies:

"Andrew Jackson, because he whipped the British with an old hickory." "Grant, who was elected President twice and around the world once." "I like Monroe for doctrine; the people and Jackson stand for the wall, and I stand for the wall." "Lincoln, who was shot and killed standing in a booth, and died saying, 'Jefferson survives, I am contented.'"

"De Soto, who waded in the Mississippi up to his elbows and there found his grave." "Columbus, who was the first to discover America and his name is in the field and went and beat the British." "The redoubtable John Paul Jones, because he said, 'We'll beat them British or bust,' and then did it."

**The Way to Spell Content.**  
The second President of the United States—John Adams—told the following incident, showing how a wise father conquered a boy's disinclination to study: When I was a boy I used to study Latin grammar; but it was dull, and I hated it. My father was anxious to send me to college, and therefore I studied the grammar, but I could not stand it no longer; and, going to my father, I told him that I did not like to study, and asked for some other employment.

My father said, "Well, John, if Latin grammar does not suit you, try dictating—perhaps that will. My meadow you need a ditch, and you may put by Latin and try that."

This seemed a delightful change, and to the meadow I went. But soon I found dictating harder than Latin, and the first forenoon was the longest I ever experienced. That day I ate the bread of labor, and I was so tired when I returned that I could not do anything more.

That night I made some comparison between Latin grammar and dictating, but said not a word about it.

I dug next forenoon, and wanted to return to Latin at dinner, but it was too late, and I could not do it. At night, when I went to bed, and thought of the most of the severest trials I ever had in my life, I told father that if he chose I would go back to Latin grammar.

He was glad of it, and if I have since gained any distinction, it has been owing to the two days labor in that ditch.—Selected.

**Filian Fire Walkers.**  
Those who witnessed the coronation procession will doubtless recollect a small group of copper-colored soldiers, with bare legs and out-standing hair innocent of covering. These strange people—Filians—and their ancient ceremony of the Vilavilavro, or fire walking, were the direction of a paper read by W. L. Allard, C. M. G., at a meeting of the Royal Colonial Institute recently. Admiral Sir N. Bowden-South presided.

The ceremony of fire walking, Mr. Allard explained, is a ceremony by a certain tribe at the island of Borneo, and originated in a legend that in reward for having spared the life of a man he had dug out of the ground, one Tui Qualita was invested with the power of being able to walk over red-hot iron without being burned. An earth oven is made and filled with layers of wood and stone. In this a fire is kindled about twelve hours before the fire walking takes place, and when the hot stones have been exposed by brushing away the charcoal, the natives, under the direction of a master of ceremonies, walk over them barefooted.

The temperature at the edge of the oven is about 120° F., while on one occasion, when a thermometer was suspended over the stones, it registered 220° and the soldier was melted. Yet stated Mr. Allard, after the ceremony the natives show no signs of the terrific ordeal through which they have gone. By means of a number of views the lecturer gave a realistic idea of the ceremony as performed nowadays.

Vice-Admiral Bowden-South described a fire-walking ceremony, as witnessed by himself. Although those who took part in it showed no signs of discomfort, he remarked that apparently they did not like it overmuch.

Replying to questions, Mr. Allard said the only explanation he could give of the apparent immunity from harm following on the process was that the soles of the feet of the natives were hardened to an unusual degree through constant walking on a sandy soil covering coral, which became exceedingly hot under the sun. There was also the element of absolute belief by the natives in the legend that they were proof against fire.—London Standard.

**The Last Straw.**  
It was Saturday night, and, owing to the temporary absence of his wife, it fell to Mr. Brown to attend to the usual process of giving his year-old son a bath and putting him to bed. He had left his evening paper with a man's reluctance, and had hurried matters along with more speed than the little chap was accustomed to. However, he did it without protest, and it came to the prayer. It was his habit after "Now I lay me" to ask the divine blessing upon a long list of relatives and friends, calling each by name.

"Please, God," he began, "bless papa and mamma, grandpa and grandma, and Aunt Edith and Uncle George, and—"

A pause. His father, thinking to curtail the list of beneficiaries, softly interrupted him with an "amen." Not heeding the interruption, the little supplicant drew a long breath, and continued, "And Aunt Alice and Cousin Annie, and—and—"

His father said, "amen." This was more than flesh and blood could stand, and, lifting his little head, he exclaimed, with tears of indignation: "Papa, who's running this prayer, you or me?"—Harper's Magazine.

**Gems of Thought.**  
"Because charity begins at home is no reason that it should be restricted to that limited sphere of the virtues she is the one who needs to have the most constant exercise."

"Faith is the hand which we take over-lasting—"

"It is worth realizing that there is no such thing as commonplace life or uninteresting circumstances. They are so only because we do not see into them, do not know them.—Selected."

"Never fear to bring the sublimest motive to the smallest duty, and the most infinite comfort to the smallest trouble.—Pitt Rivers."

"Affectation in dress implies a flaw in the understanding. A faithful friend is the medicine of life. Affectation of wisdom often prevents our becoming wise. A fool's heart is ever dancing on his lips. A false-grounded hope is but a walking man's dream."

"And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient.—2 Timothy 2:24."

"When life's all love, 'tis life; aught else 'tis naught.—Lanier."

"Do something every day that will allow you to feel at night that you have given some of your time and strength to the definite service of the Lord."

"Heroism is simple, and yet it is rare. Every one who does the best he can do is a hero.—Josh Billings."

"There is no life so rent and broken but Christ can unite the severed parts in His own tender compassion."

**Brilliant.**  
Our doubts are traitors,  
And make us lose the good we oft might win,  
By fearing to attempt. —Shakespeare.

If there be some weaker one,  
Give me strength to help him on;  
If a blinder soul there be,  
Let me guide him nearer Thee;  
Make my mortal dreams come true  
With the work of thine hand;  
Clothe with life the weak intent,  
Let me be the thing I mean;  
Let me find in thy employ;  
Peace that dearest is thy joy;  
Out of self to love be led,  
And to heaven be led;  
Till all things sweet and good  
Seem my natural habitude.

—Whittier.  
Give me joy, give me joy, O my friends!  
For once in my life has a day  
Passed over my head and out of my sight,  
And my soul has sought to escape  
—No querulous word to the fair little child  
Who drew me from study to play;  
No fretful reply to the hundred and one  
Who question me gravely and gay;  
No word to the beggar I found would take back,  
No word to the debtor at the door;  
No angry retorts to those who misjudge,  
And desire not a nay, but a yes;  
No word, though I know I remember them all,  
Which I would, if I could, ever unsay;  
Give me joy, give me joy, O my friends,  
For the patience that lasted all day!

—A. D. T. Whitney.  
They stood and sang of great things  
In all men's hearts to dwell—  
The young, that knew not what it meant,  
The old, that knew too well.

And I, that am not young nor old,  
But still when they had sung,  
And shrank from growing old, and yet  
Would not again be young.

—Katherine Warren, in Century.  
If thou wouldst live unfettered by care,  
Let not the past torment thee e'er;  
If any burden of the past be laid,  
Acquiesce in that which thou hast made;  
Acquiesce in that which thou hast made;  
Inquire the meaning of each day;  
What each day means itself will say;  
In thine own actions take thy pleasure;  
What others do, thou'lt find true measure;  
Ne'er let thy breast with hate be supplied  
And to God the future safe confide.

—Goethe.  
**Historical.**  
The most recent excavation shows that Vesuvius began its work as a conservator of antiquity earlier than the memorable year A. D. 79. The excavations in the valley of the Sarno, near San Marzano, some most interesting antiquities have come to light. These had been covered up by a volcanic deposit about six feet thick, which points to an eruption of Vesuvius which must have taken place in the seventh century before Christ. The relics include a Greek burying place, archaic Italian tombs and various bronzes and terra cottas.

There is now in St. Petersburg the oldest known MS. of the New Testament in Greek, saved from destruction by the mercantile chance of a young man, crossing the land of a convent at the foot of Mount Sinai, Constantine Tischendorf saw a basketful of parchment leaves on their way to be burned. Two baskets had already gone, he was told, and all that he could secure for himself was a small bundle of odd leaves. But the monks, now interested in "waste paper," saved the rest from the fire, and nine years after, on a return visit to the convent, Tischendorf found that the steward had wrapped up in a bulky kind of volume, which is also called by the name of the New Testament, with parts hitherto unknown, and parts of the Old, which had long been sought. He begged the volume for the Czar, and today it lies, well preserved in spite of its 1500 years of age, among the treasures of the Russian capital.

Cluvierus observes that the Germans worshipped the sun with such devotion that they seemed to acknowledge that planet as Supreme God and dedicated it to the first day of the week, from Sunday. Monday is the moon's day, so called from monks and day. Tuesday (the same with Mars) gave name to Tuesday. They also worshipped Woden or Godan, becoming afterward contracted into Odin. The Germans and English gave that name to the deity. They also worshipped the sun with such devotion that they seemed to acknowledge that planet as Supreme God and dedicated it to the first day of the week, from Sunday. Monday is the moon's day, so called from monks and day. Tuesday (the same with Mars) gave name to Tuesday. They also worshipped Woden or Godan, becoming afterward contracted into Odin. The Germans and English gave that name to the deity. 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## The Horse.

### More About the Diving Horses.

Your correspondent, W. E. Clifton Smith of New York City, is wasting nerve force on something he very evidently knows nothing about. I was informed by the owner of the horses that they had never met with an accident. I should judge from the looks of them that this was so. I saw these horses with my own eyes. I didn't read it nor dream it, nor merely hear of it. I saw just what I wrote that I did. They were in our county fair ground four days. I saw them in their stables, on the track, and when they performed I was very close to them. I had every opportunity to observe them as I had interviewed their owner and had the help of the management in my observation. The horses are not abused, nor suffering in their work. They apparently think it a great lark. Jumping twice a day from that platform is pretty light labor compared with what even the pet of a family has to perform. In regard to the accident at Concord, I am told that these are not the same horses. The others do not jump, but are thrown by a trap. One of them struck sideways and was hurt.

Glover, Vt. H. M. FARNIVAL.

A capital dressing for use upon horses with brittle feet can be made of one pound each of tar and tallow, melted down with four ounces of beeswax. Horses suffering from brittle feet are constantly casting their shoes, and give very much trouble in keeping them "on their feet." The judicious use of an ointment such as that here referred to will have the effect of softening and toughening the hoof, and rendering it less liable to crack and break off than if left in the ordinary course of nature. But care must be taken not to overdo the use of this or any other application of a similar character, as a dressing for horses' hoofs. The injudicious or indiscriminate use of ointments of this kind would lead to a chapping or cracking up of the hoofs, and thus interfere with the normal functions performed by such openings in the economy of hoof growth.

### Notes from Washington, D. C.

No better five and three-quarter million dollars can be appropriated by the Government than that carried by the Agricultural Appropriation bill as it passed the House, although this action does not mean that it may not be largely increased or decreased in the Senate and in conference before it becomes a law. There may be some things in it which could be eliminated, without great harm to the country, and there are certainly some sections where additional appropriations would be highly advantageous. Those congressmen who need help for reelection will doubtless vote with avidity for the \$250,000 appropriation for seed distribution. As right here in this section of the bill is a proviso, which did the majority of Congress possess the statesmanship to grasp its possibilities, points the way to an opportunity to put America head and shoulders above other countries, agriculturally, now and forever. This proviso sets aside \$40,000 to be used in agricultural exploration in foreign lands and the procurement and test in this country of "rare and valuable seeds, bulbs, trees, shrubs, vines, cuttings and plants with reference to their introduction into this country." With a similar pittance during the last two or three years the explorers of the department have brought into the United States new and improved species and varieties which are certain to bring us millions of dollars annually. Macaroni wheat is a single instance. This can be grown over a belt of millions of acres, too dry for producing ordinary wheat.

Two hundred and ninety thousand dollars! An annual sum sufficient to equip the present little section of plant introduction of the department with machinery, which would reach every corner of the globe, and search out every growing thing which might be raised in this country, and test it thoroughly for a series of years in every section where it would be likely to thrive. Then, as such introductions were found to be useful they could be distributed in sufficient quantities among farmers, through the campaigning congressmen, if you will, so as to be of some real benefit to the farmer and to the nation. Most certain it is, too, that the distribution of such things of real value would assist the re-election of statesmen much more than the distribution of the seeds, which, as a matter of fact, will result from this appropriation.

The Bureau of Animal Industry gets \$1,287,490 of the Agricultural Appropriation bill. An interesting proviso of this section of the bill is the inspection by the department of butter, cheese and other dairy products intended for exportation to any foreign country, after the methods employed in meat shipments. The bureau is to ascertain the "purity and quality of such dairy products, and may cause the same to be so marked, stamped or labeled as to secure their identity and make known in the markets of foreign countries to which they may be sent, their purity, quality and grade."

The Secretary of Agriculture is allowed \$15,000 to improve and continue the Arlington experimental farm, which many ways is to be the model experiment farm in the country. This tract of about four hundred acres of Government land, a part of the old Robert E. Lee estate, is well situated for a farm and allows the scientists of the department at Washington who are likewise practical agriculturists, an excellent opportunity for carrying out tests and experiments.

The Agricultural bill carries \$10,000 "to enable the Secretary of Agriculture to investigate and report on the cost of making tea, and the best method of cultivating and preparing the same for market, so as to demonstrate whether it is practicable to introduce its culture in the Southern States as a profitable industry." Judging from the wording of this section of the bill, the department is likely to be required to establish tea saloons where the practical cost of "making tea" may be demonstrated, unless "making" tea can be construed into growing that article.

No work of the department of Agriculture has increased with greater rapidity than forestry. From an insignificant appropriation of \$30,000 as I remember, six or seven years ago, the present Agricultural bill appropriates \$400,000 for its forestry bureau. Not only this, but a special bill will doubtless pass Congress transferring the sixty odd million acres of forest reserves to this bureau.

The Agricultural bill specifically authorizes the chemist of the department to inspect importations of goods which may be adulterated and dangerous to health. The Secretary of the Treasury furnishes samples from original packages of such importations for inspection and analysis. Broad au-

thority is given the two departments to restrict and refuse the admission of deleterious foods, or those falsely or incompletely labeled.

Anthrax spores are very tenacious of life and will remain dormant for years; in certain cases on record soil has remained infected for twelve years. The spores are also readily transmitted, and one instance is known where the disease was carried some distance on the boots and clothing of a person who had been aiding in a post-mortem examination. Hides and wool are probably the most important factor in the spread of the disease. Nearly all the domestic animals are subject to it—horses, mules, cattle, sheep, swine, goats, cats, dogs and even man. Sheep are believed to be the most susceptible.

Another Good Roads bill has been introduced by Representative Aiken of South Carolina, which in common with most of the other good roads measures creates a bureau of public highways and appropriates \$24,000,000 of Uncle Sam's hard-earned cash.

Senator Teller of Colorado has introduced a bill of importance to the West authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct and carry on a series of experiments, in conjunction with the experiment stations, in the non-corn-growing States and Territories in the breeding, rearing and finishing of live stock for market; in the introduction and development of breeds of horses, cattle, sheep and swine, suitable for such regions and conditions, and also in the introduction and cultivation of crops and forage plants, other than Indian corn, which may prove of value to those States. The bill appropriates \$50,000 for the coming fiscal year, and \$50,000 each for the four succeeding fiscal years. The money received by the department from the sale of stock raised is to be used over again in continued experiments.

A good practice with fowls seems to be to throw them, early in the morning, a few handfuls of small grain or cracked wheat, or cracked corn among a large amount of trash. After they have searched and exercised diligently for a half hour they will be in fine form for breakfast, to get which, however, should require some exercise.

It is always a good idea to make a small rich bed and sow half a dozen short rows of onion seed for growing "Sets" for next year. The largest of these sets will make fine little picking onions. Sets sown at twenty to twenty-five cents a quart, and it is more of a pleasure than a trouble to raise a peck of them from such a little bed as above noted.

Cuba is coming well to the fore in some of her import regulations against adulterations. Compound lard imported into Cuba must bear the word "artificial lard" on each package containing such material, in both English and Spanish.

The exports of breadstuffs since the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1, are much the lowest of any seven months period during the last six years, being only \$103,000,000, against \$129,000,000 a year ago, and \$168,000,000 for the corresponding seven months of 1899. The exports for January were \$13,000,000, against \$19,000,000 January a year ago and against \$16,000,000 in December, 1903.

Exports of cattle, hogs and sheep have been large during January, being \$4,055,000, being the only \$4,000,000 mark reached in any month during the last four years. The exports for the fiscal year thus far have been \$23,000,000, against \$14,000,000 for 1903 and \$19,000,000 for 1902.

Exports of cotton for December and January, so far as value is concerned, have been record breakers as compared with those months of other years. December exports were \$72,000,000 and January \$46,000,000, against \$46,000,000 for December and \$39,000,000 for January a year ago and \$43,000,000 for December and \$40,000,000 for January two years ago. The total exports of cotton since July 1, 1903, seven months, were \$274,000,000, against \$206,000,000 in the corresponding seven months of both 1903 and 1902, against \$215,000,000 in 1901 and only \$133,000,000 in 1900.

GUY E. MITCHELL.

### Elms and Evergreens.

In a recent issue of your paper I read an article from our noted horticulturist, J. J. H. Gregory, on the utility of the elm. We find the elm in all its magnificence and beauty on our moist and rocky land all over Maine. They seem to come up spontaneously in field and pasture. More especially we find them by the roadways and on lot lines between farms, where they came up as sprouts by the side of the original log fences, often two feet in diameter and fifty or sixty feet high, with branching tops.

We have never made much account of the bodies as saw logs for plank or boards from their warping nature. But a reliable old millman, who has lived in a saw-mill all his life, told me that to cut the logs and let them lay over one year before sawing, they would not warp or twist in the plank. Try it and report result.

Some thirty or forty years ago, said a gentleman who then owned a flour mill up on the Genesee river, an apparently half-witted fellow came to his mill one day where he bartered with him to set some evergreen trees. The fellow agreed, for so much millfeed, to set the following season one hundred pine and make them live. Spring and summer came, the mill owner had forgotten all about the evergreens, when, in the drought of August, they should drive up but his tree man with a load of evergreens. He set them out and they all lived. LORENZO GARCELON, Waldo County, Me.

### Good Changes in Poultry.

The other States are fast taking up the example set by Little Rhody of providing thorough instruction in poultry culture. Nobody thinks of laughing now at the idea of a special poultry course. Missouri, which is the centre of a great natural poultry section, has raised the study to the dignity of a full department with a special professor and a long course of study. Most of the

**Horse Owners! Use**  
**Caustic**  
**Balsam**

The safest, best BLISTER ever used. Takes the place of all liniments for mild or severe cases. Removes all Bunches or Blotches from Hides and Cattle. SUPERBLY ALI. CAUTREY'S FINEST. Inexpensive to produce and of immense value. It is warranted to give satisfaction. Price \$1.50 per bottle. Sold by druggists, or sent by express with shipping charges for the use. Send for descriptive circular. THE LAWRENCE-WILLIAMS CO., Cleveland, O.

## Large Profits on Varied Soils Without Farm Manure. Fruit, Truck and Special Crop Growing on a Large Scale.

In many cases some of these soils are of the lightest sandy character. Some in Florida have been described as "looking under a pocket magnifier like powdered window glass." They have little plant food resources of their own. All has to be supplied in the fertilizer.

Pamphlets describing the methods of planting, fertilizing, cultivation, marketing, etc., as practiced by these growers, will be mailed free.

From the American Agriculturist, March 21, 1903.

### Truck Farming with Fertilizers

Most of our readers are familiar with the strawberry farming practiced by W. F. Allen of Maryland, through his annual announcement in our advertising columns of strawberry plants for sale. They may not know that his success is largely due to the use of fertilizers. He uses over 100 tons of fertilizer annually on his 210 acres of strawberries.

Another Maryland grower, J. A. Davis, raises 100 acres of strawberries for market and realizes fancy prices. In ten years he has become a rich man on strawberries grown with artificial fertilizers only, while his neighbors who pursue the old method are still struggling for an existence.

Every intelligent potato grower now knows that the most profitable of these crops require the liberal use of fertilizers, but some truck farmers still cling to stable manure exclusively. We know one grower, however, who used 250 tons of asparagus fertilizer last year, and 100 tons of commercial fertilizer for potatoes and cabbage. Another successful grower near Charleston uses 400 tons of fertilizer annually for potatoes, cabbage and strawberries. Equal success is reported by potato growers and others on Long Island and in New Jersey. The methods pursued by these men are clearly set forth in the fruit and truck pamphlets issued by the Mapes Co.

From the Times-Union, Jacksonville, Fla., April 10, 1903.

### Worth a Second Reading

Practice and science are profitably blended in these extremely valuable booklets, "Fertilizer Farming Up to Date" is a review of practical experience covering twenty to twenty-five years of various soils with the use of only Mapes' complete manures, without a pound of stable manure. Profits are reported by this method of farming from start to finish, while the record shows that these lands have steadily improved in fertility and in profit-producing power. No matter what kind of farming one may practice, the perusal of this book will be an eye-opener. Another entitled "Strawberries on Light Soils" is an equally fascinating recital of the remarkable profits obtained by up-to-date methods in strawberry culture by many of the largest as well as smallest horticulturists throughout the Middle and Eastern States.

From the American Cultivator, Boston, Mass., March 28, 1903.

These pamphlets are a revelation in the successful and profitable fertilization of even the thinnest, lightest and poor soils from the state of abandonment up to the continuous profit of successful farming for years, with the constant improvement of the soil, showing that with the Mapes Manures good crops may be assured from the start, also with the land growing more fertile and more valuable year by year.

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Eastern farmers' colleges furnish good short courses.

No branch of agriculture offers a better opening for those whose tastes incline in that direction. The industry is certain to increase very fast during the next ten years or more, and many new developments may be expected. There will be plenty of chances for skill and talent from professors and experts to farm helpers. Just now it is hard to secure competent men for any kind of a place in poultry work.

One of the most extensive farmers in Connecticut informs us that he has given up his great poultry department simply because he could not find a man able to successfully manage it for him, although a good salary was offered. Another man who has just bought a poultry farm has been hunting several months for a hired man who understood care of poultry. As for poultry professors and specialists there are plenty to apply for such positions, but almost none who are equal to modern requirements in these lines. The young man or woman who gets the best possible training in any line of poultry affairs will find no lack of work according to ability.

### A Champion Young Holstein.

Katy Spofford Corona owned by E. H. Knapp & Son, Fabius, N. Y. World's champion official record at age of 3 years 1 month and 6 days, 590.65 pounds milk, 26.02



CHAMPION HOLSTEIN COW, KATY SPOFFORD CORONA.

pounds butter in seven days, equivalent to 35.56 pounds at full age.

This record has never been equaled by a heifer in her class; 4891 pounds milk in sixty consecutive days, 933 pounds in one day, 624 pounds 7 ounces in seven days. She had her first calf at 1 year 9 months and 25 days, after which she gave 64 pounds 15 ounces of milk in a day; 13,616 pounds 15 ounces milk in one year. Notice her economic test record: value of products \$6.06, and a net profit of \$4.67. No record yet reported equals these two amounts.—E. H. Knapp.

### Eggs Still in Light Supply.

Eggs are a shade easier, but supplies are still light and most increase decidedly before much of a drop can occur. Cold weather in the producing regions checks production and shipment.

Eggs have been imported from Europe this season and sold at a profit for the first time in ten or fifteen years. G. W. Martin & Bro. brought over from Germany 4500 to five thousand cases, each containing 120 eggs. Besides paying the duty and freight, about five cents a dozen, the importers are said to have cleared from six to eight cents on each dozen.

In former years there were large importations of eggs from Canada and Europe. The scarcity and high price of domestic eggs provided the opportunity of which the Harrison-street house took advantage. The eggs were ordered, received and distributed inside of a month.

### Irish Farm Life.

When the quality, not the quantity, of the land is considered, the sight of the boulder-strewn fields, barren hillides and wet morasses makes it easy to realize how few towns might create a famine. A special board has been appointed to improve the condition of these districts, and is doing its best to promote industries, reclaim bogs and remove tenants from hopeless holdings. Nevertheless, much misery remains incurable by any of those measures; and it is a fact significant of something radically amiss that while so many people are struggling for subsistence on unillable soil, or

quitting the country in despair, great tracts of good land have gone out of cultivation or are used for grazing only. Unfortunately there is a wide diversity of opinion as to where the sovereign remedy lies, although almost everybody agrees about the urgent necessity for it.

One step in the right direction is to assist the peasant farmer in his buying and selling. When one cent will purchase an egg or two, and half a dozen cents a chicken, the little farmer's wife gets but a meagre reward for her struggle with a heavy basket to fair or village store. The storekeeper is often the "schemer-man," who fouds his fortune by his dealings, on ruinous terms, with his needy neighbors, and who, like the city pawnbroker, acts as "an ill physician for illa." "It's a poor case entirely," this disappointed market woman complains, "to be killin' oneself churrin' butter when 'spence a pound is all he's givin', and makin' a compliment of that."

Light railways to carry off the poultry and co-operative creameries that pay fairly for milk are now bringing within reach opportunities of which the farmer avails himself.

Content with scanty and monotonous fare is a virtue which leans almost to a failing in the Irish peasant. Should he be able to afford a bit of bacon along with his potatoes, and to supplement his strabrut with a griddlecake and a cup of tea, so much the

for a few red and fancy varieties, so large handlers of fruit in Liverpool tell me. A good orchard well taken care of is almost as good as a bank account. W. P. A. Kennebec County, Me.

### Notes from Winter Fair.

The midwinter stock show held at Guelph, Ont., last month, was one of the most interesting and satisfactory functions that has transpired in stock circles for some time. The exhibits were better in many respects than those of last year. The entries in the beef-animal class and also in the dairy class were of better quality than those of former years. Colonel Ferguson of Pictouville, N. S., Scotland, who acted as chief judge of fat cattle, stated that the animals at Guelph were quite equal to those exhibited at Chicago, at the recent International Stock Show, where he had just been acting as judge.

The exhibit of swine was stronger than last year, but that of sheep was not quite so well filled. However, one of the chief departments of the show, viz., the poultry department, was much better represented than previously.

In the dairy department meeting Mr. Henry Glendinning of Manilla, Ont., stated that the proper temperature at which to keep a dairy stable was 65° to 70°. Two valuable rationals that he had used successfully were (1) corn ensilage forty pounds, clover hay ten pounds, pea meal four pounds, bran four pounds. (2) Roots thirty-five to forty pounds, clover hay ten pounds, oats with wheat, bran or oil cake eight or nine pounds. A properly balanced ration should stand about one part of protein to 51 parts carbohydrates. Plenty of fresh water should be available at all times.

Many matters were discussed in the fat-stock meetings. One subject of interest was the choice of stock animals for the beef market. Butchers and buyers are tired of big, coarse-boned animals, and always preferred well-rounded, smooth-turned animals. The demand for "baby-beef" is rapidly increasing, and if the farmer gives the matter sufficient thought, he will be convinced that this is the most profitable method of beef raising. The meat of a two-year-old animal, fed rapidly from birth, is much superior in quality and flavor to that of four and five-year-old animals.

Much emphasis was placed on the necessity of the farmer studying the demands of his market, and seeking to prepare his produce to fill such. Great opportunities of procuring such knowledge are provided him both by example and instruction through the medium of the midwinter stock fairs of Canada and United States, where he may see superior stock, and listen to lectures given by the foremost authorities of America. H. G. B. Guelph, Ont.

We have had the best results with our young chicks by feeding rolled oats. This is rather expensive if you feed the best quality of rolled oats, but nearly every grower will have some damaged rolled oats (not so badly damaged that the chicks will not appreciate them) and they will make a very much better food for the young chicks. They will appreciate them. I found that out some years ago, and I now frequently take a handful of the rolled oats that are damaged and put it where the chicks can get it. You can get it reasonably if you can buy it at all.—A. V. Howie.

### Millions of Vegetables.

When the Editor read 10,000 Plants for 16c, he could hardly believe it, but upon second reading finds that the John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., than whom there are no more reliable and extensive seed growers in the world, makes this offer. They send for 16c postpaid their big catalog and sufficient seed to grow 1000 each of Cabbages, Onions, Radishes, 2000 each of Carrots, Celery, Lettuce and a bushel basket full of brilliant flowers, for 16c postage and this notice. Write them today. P. P.



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